

Prisoner swap set for today

DAMASCUS (R) — A Palestinian commando group will exchange three Israeli soldiers Monday for 1,150 Palestinians and Lebanese held by Israel, informed Palestinian sources said Monday. The sources told Reuters the deal had been agreed indirectly between Israel and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) through the mediation of the International Red Cross. They said three planes — two Libyan and one Bulgarian — was to leave Damascus at 2300 GMT Sunday for Geneva, carrying the three Israeli soldiers and the exchange would start at 0700 GMT Monday. The swap, referred to by the PFLP-GC as "the Galilee operation", will be in three stages, each covering one batch of Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners in exchange for one Israeli soldier.

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Sudan orders probe into Falasha airlift

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese authorities Sunday ordered an official inquiry into the alleged involvement of a former senior official in the airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel, Egypt's official Middle East News Agency (MENA) said. Reporting from Khartoum, MENA quoted Attorney-General Omar Abdul Atti as saying the inquiry would also cover "other crimes and offences" by former First Vice-President Omar Mohammed Ali Tayeb. Mr. Tayeb was jailed following a military coup on April 16 which toppled President Jaafar Numeiri.

Qadhafi leaves Jeddah after talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi left Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port of Jeddah Sunday after a second round of talks with King Fahd, the Saudi Press Agency said. Col. Qadhafi and King Fahd had their first meeting Saturday night soon after the Libyan leader's unexpected arrival following a surprise one-day visit to Sudan. No details were available on the Jeddah talks and Col. Qadhafi's next destination was not disclosed.

Mubarak, Ceausescu meet briefly

BUCHAREST (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, returning home after a four-day official visit to Turkey, met with President Nicolae Ceausescu during a stopover here Saturday, the official Agerpres news agency reported, to their talks "priority was given to the latest developments in the Middle East, with emphasis on the need for growing political and diplomatic efforts towards solving the problems in the area," Agerpres reported. Mr. Ceausescu said Romania was determined "to further contribute actively to a political solution to the complex problems in the Middle East," according to Agerpres.

Son Sann arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — The prime minister of the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea, Son Sann, arrived here Sunday on a four-day visit for talks with his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hassan Ali on promoting relations between the two countries, officials at the Democratic Kampuchean embassy said Sunday.

Syrian, Libyan cabinets hold unity talks

DAMASCUS (R) — The Syrian and Libyan cabinets met Sunday in Damascus to work out steps towards a union between their two countries, the official Syrian news agency SANA reported. It quoted Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm as saying the meeting was designed "to work out the practical principles... toward action for union between Syria and Libya." The Libyan delegation, headed by the Secretary-General of the General People's Committee, Mohammad Zarrouk Rajab, arrived in Damascus Saturday.

Saud continues talks with Iranian leaders

Tehran reiterates its conditions to end Gulf war

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal continued talks with Iranian leaders Sunday as Tehran reiterated its conditions for ending its 55-month-old war with Iraq.

The newspaper Ettala'at reported that Prince Saud, who arrived Saturday for a two-day visit, discussed recent developments in the region with Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi.

The Saudi minister later met Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, informed sources told Reuters. Diplomats said the Iran-Iraq war was high on the agenda, centered on Iran's demand for the "trial and punishment" of the Iraqi government and Saudi Arabia's financial and other support for Baghdad.

But Ettala'at said it was premature to judge whether it was the starting point in a new chapter of diplomatic relations.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was quoted Sunday as telling Prince Saud that Iran's conditions for ending the war with Iraq remain unchanged.

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, said that Mr. Velayati

told Prince Saud that Iran will carry on its "just resistance" against Iraq.

The Iranian agency quoted Prince Saud as saying that he believed that the problems of the Middle East should be solved by the people of the region. He also said that the Saudi government was ready to cooperate with Iran to solve the Gulf region's problems.

Mr. Velayati held a session of talks with Prince Saud Saturday. In Abu Dhabi, the official Emirates News Agency meanwhile quoted an unidentified member of the Saudi delegation in Tehran as saying that the three-hour session between Mr. Velayati and Prince Saud dealt largely with "Gulf security and the Iraq-Iran war, which threatens security of the entire (Gulf) region."

The Saudi Press Agency later quoted Prince Saud as saying he hoped his talks with Mr. Velayati would help in "forming a new approach towards ending the Iran-Iraq war."

He added he had informed Iranian officials about Saudi Arabia's "desire to secure the safety of the Gulf region and to promote relations between its people."

ations between its people."

The Saudi minister later met Muslim ambassadors to Iran and briefed them on developments in the Gulf conflict, the agency said.

There has so far been no Iranian response to a call by Muslim scholars for a truce in the war during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, which begins today.

In Baghdad meanwhile, Iraq reported that its warplanes continued to launch combat missions on Iranian positions in the southern sector of the front line.

The Iraqi military communique, which reports on the daily operations along the 1,180-kilometre long front line, also reported "concentrated raids" by Iraqi gunships on Iranian positions in the southern Misan sector on Saturday.

The communique said "heavy casualties were inflicted on (Iranian) personnel and equipment." It listed four Iranian soldiers killed, another unspecified number injured, and the destruction of three boats and their occupants. Artillery positions, three troop concentrations and a number of emplacements and vehicles were pounded, and a large Iranian boat was seized, according to the communique.

Iranian artillery on the other hand shelled the suburbs of the Iraqi border towns of Mandali and Kasbat Khormal, the communique reported.

1 killed in two blasts in Riyadh

BAHRAIN (R) — Two explosions in four minutes rocked a commercial street in the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh Saturday night, killing one person, residents said Sunday.

The blasts were about two kilometres apart in a fairly busy thoroughfare in the north of the city often frequented by Americans and other Westerners, they said.

Both explosions were near pizza parlours in the Sulaymaniyah district of the capital just after 7 pm (1600 GMT). One was across the road from a compound housing American advisors to the Saudi Arabian National Guard.

Earlier, the official Saudi Press Agency said one person had been killed and three injured when charges of dynamite in two dustbins exploded. It did not identify the casualties, but added a committee was investigating the blasts.

Residents said the larger of the explosions, at a crossroads joining streets about 30 metres wide, shattered glass in buildings on four corners of the junction. The areas had been cordoned off.

In Beirut, an anonymous telephone caller, who said he spoke for the "Islamic Jihad" (holy war) group, told foreign news agencies the blasts "were but a minor specimen of a series of blows we are planning in Saudi towns and official departments."

He said the bomb attacks were carried out by Islamic Jihad cells in Saudi Arabia.

Apparently referring to a current visit to Tehran by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, he said Saudi "attempts at a rapprochement with the Islamic Republic (Iran)" would not deter Islamic Jihad.

The Prince is the first Saudi minister to visit Iran since the downfall of the late Shah.

"The direct contacts that are taking place today are only a procrastination to reify positions after the regime of (Saudi King) Fahd felt it was under the greatest threat," the caller said.

Callers for Islamic Jihad have the group holds Saudi diplomat Hussein Farash, kidnapped in Beirut in January last year. The abduction was the first of a spate of kidnappings of foreigners in Lebanon, many of which have been claimed by the group.

'Lebanese Forces' move sparks hopes for peace

BEIRUT (R) — A decision by the "Lebanese Forces" militia to quit South Lebanon, where fighting with rival forces has raged for two months, appears to have boosted Syrian-backed efforts to end factional fighting in Lebanon.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami said Sunday that, despite heavy weekend shelling in Beirut, the "Lebanese Forces" decision meant a political breakthrough was now possible.

"Attitudes have begun to converge. This is a signal for an early breakthrough," Mr. Karami told reporters in the northern port of Tripoli. "A political solution is possible since principles are now close."

Press commentators interpreted the militia's decision as a response to Syrian pressure to align itself with President Amin Gemayel's attempts at national reconciliation.

The militia said in a statement Saturday night it was leaving South Lebanon and closing its liaison office in Jerusalem. It appealed for a ceasefire in Beirut and urged the removal of "all features of partition between the two parts" of Beirut.

Shortly after the statement was issued heavy shelling erupted in the capital and continued overnight. State-run television estimated 4,000 shells were fired on 20 areas of the capital, killing three people and wounding more than 20.

Eyewitnesses saw truck-mounted multiple rocket launchers in the area.

chairs in mainly Muslim west Beirut read 40-round volleys repeatedly over the "green line" battlefield to the predominantly Christian east.

People in a west Beirut night club said the roar of rockets being fired nearby drowned out music on the dance floor.

Shells from the east slammed into west Beirut's poor southern suburbs and the once-affluent Hamra area to the north.

The fighting has kept main roads between east and west closed for 18 days running. Few dared to cross a widely-known back road across the line after a sniper shot dead the driver of a newspaper delivery van on the crossing Saturday.

Militia clashes in Beirut have killed around 100 people, mainly civilians, are wounded some 500 in the past three weeks.

Beirut newspapers saw the "Lebanese Forces" statement as a move towards detente with Syrian-backed militia foes.

But there was no sign Sunday that "Lebanese Forces" militiamen had begun to follow orders and leave the area around the town of Jezzine in the south. The militia in the area numbers some 400.

The statement follows demands by politicians for the "Lebanese Forces" to back, with concrete action, its recent statements in support of Syrian influence and national reconciliation.

Falangists ready to share power to end civil war, page 2

Krytron affair 'exaggerated' — Rabin

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted Sunday as saying the controversy over Krytron triggering devices sold to Israel was "a storm over nothing."

A U.S. federal grand jury in Los Angeles indicted California businessman Richard Smyth last Thursday on charges of illegally exporting 800 Krytrons to Israel since 1980.

Licences are required for the export of the devices because they can be used in nuclear weapons.

The Maariv daily newspaper quoted Mr. Rabin as saying that officials from the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv approached his ministry a month ago to obtain details of the purchase of the Krytrons.

"We told them we are ready to supply all information. We explained to them (the Americans) for what kind of explosives and the development of what kind of las-

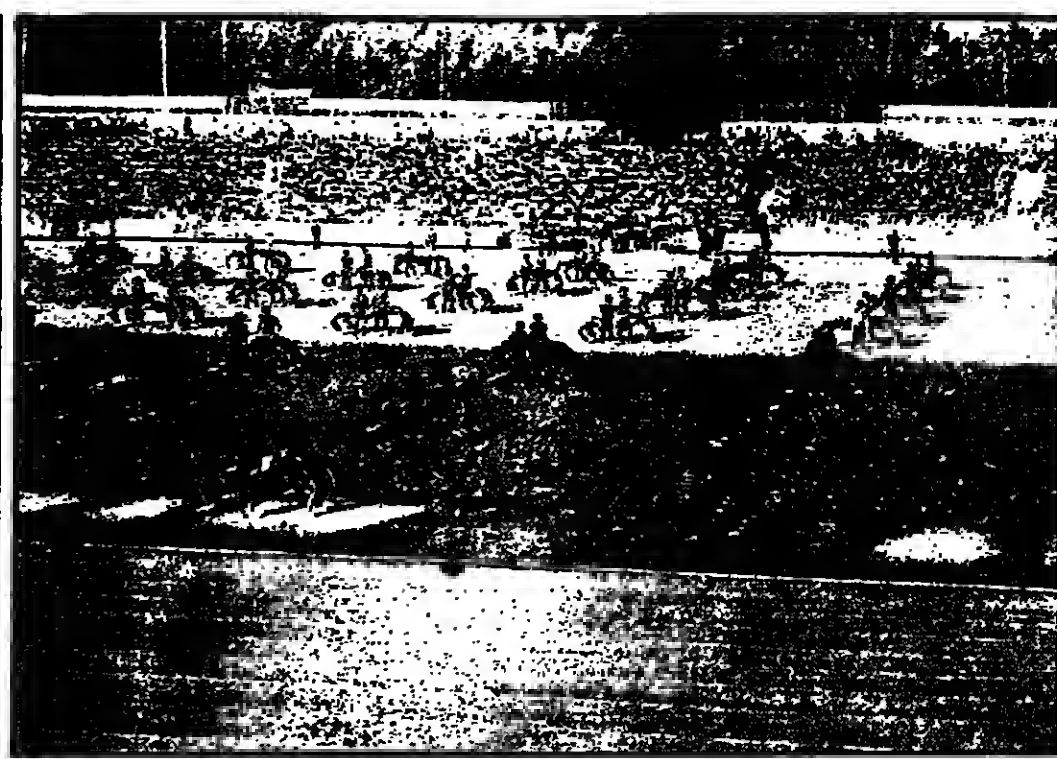
ers we used them... those who claim that the development of nuclear weapons was involved — that's garbage," Maariv quoted Mr. Rabin as saying.

Mr. Rabin said 800 Krytrons were involved, but that only 500 reached Israel. He said they cost \$45 to \$50 each.

Israel reacted to U.S. requests for an accounting of these illegal Krytron shipments by agreeing to return an unspecified number of unused devices. Israel has also assured the State Department that the devices were not used in making nuclear weapons and offered to say that formally in writing.

The grand jury indictment charged that Mr. Smyth had shipped 800 Krytrons, but it is not clear how many of these the U.S. will recover.

The administration did not implicate Israel in the illegal exports. "I can only note that the ind-



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS: The Educational Department of Amman Governorate celebrates Independence Day by displaying sports activities. The festival was patronised by His

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday at Al Hussein Sports City Stadium (Photo by Yusef Al Allan)

Israelis open fire on Arab vehicle, injure 6

AMMAN (J.T.) — Israeli soldiers Sunday opened automatic fire on a car carrying Arab citizens from the occupied Gaza Strip and reports said that six passengers were hurt, one of them, Saqr Dasouki, seriously.

In two contradictory statements following the attack, the Israeli authorities claimed that the vehicle had tried to storm a military barrier near the approaches of Gaza town but later said that Israeli troops fired on the car as it was trying to storm a military post near Askalan, 23 kilometres away from Gaza.

According to the Israeli statements, the incident took place as the vehicle, carrying Arab labourers, was heading to Gaza from regions of Palestine occupied since 1948.

The firing incident coincided with an escalation of Arab resistance activity inside the occupied Arab territories and a stepping up of Israeli oppressive measures in retaliation.

Earlier reports said that an Arab citizen from Gaza was found murdered in an Israeli coastal settlement following an explosion at a road station. According to the Israeli military spokesman, the Arab was killed when an explosive device went off, but later the spokesman retracted his statement and said that the man was killed by a hand grenade.

In another incident Sunday inside Jerusalem's walled Old City, an Israeli soldier was stabbed, police said.

Meanwhile, Israel radio said an Israeli soldier, a policeman and a student arrested in the killing of a Palestinian taxi driver were ordered held for 15 days by Jerusalem's magistrate court Sunday.

Muslim World begins 30 days of Ramadan fasting

By Khader Nassar
Reuters

BAHRAIN — The sighting of the new moon in the Middle East heralds in the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan for the Arab World.

For the 30 days of Ramadan, devout Muslims throughout the world will not eat, drink or smoke between dawn and sunset.

The fast begins at dawn after the sighting of the new moon. Many countries wait for the announcement of its advent by Saudi Arabia, guardian of the Muslim Shrines of Mecca and Medina.

The fast is stipulated in the holy book, the Koran, as one of the five pillars of Islam, and is observed in Ramadan as the month in which the tenets of the religion were first revealed to Prophet Mohammad.

All of the world's estimated one billion Muslims are expected to observe the fast, although some exceptions are made, for the sick, for children and pregnant women, amongst others.

With most of the Arab World and many other Muslim countries lying within or close to the tropics with daytime temperatures soaring towards 40 degrees centigrade or more, it is a punishing regime.

The setting of the sun will invariably be followed by a huge banquet and many Muslims will rise well before dawn for another big feast before the onset of daylight.

Many Muslims say their spending on food and drink as much as doubles during Ramadan.

But most government offices and businesses work shorter hours, and the pace of life during the day is generally slower.

Holy Month begins in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mhanna announced Sunday the sighting of the moon, heralding the beginning of the Muslim Holy Month of Ramadan as of midnight Sunday. During the next 30 days, devout Muslims throughout the world will abstain from eating, drinking and smoking during the day.

Throughout the Holy Month, all liquor stores, bars and night clubs will remain closed and restaurants will not serve alcoholic drinks. No restaurant will be open to serve customers until 6 p.m. when the day's fasting ends.

Smoking in public is banned and, according to instructions issued by the authorities, violators of the stipulations will be severely punished.

Non-Muslims are also expected to observe the fast in public, and in many countries such as Saudi Arabia failing to do so can be punished by imprisonment.

Restaurants are ordered to close during daylight hours in most countries and bars are also shut until nightfall in those countries where alcohol — prohibited by Islam — is sold. Room service for foreigners, however, is permitted in many places.

Saudi Arabia observes the fast particularly strictly, although one

King due in Cairo today

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein is expected to arrive in Cairo today for two days of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Reuter quoted an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying in the Egyptian capital on Sunday.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul-Meguid indicated earlier this week that King Hussein and President Mubarak were expected to meet before the King's planned visit to Washington for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on prospects for peace in the Middle East. The King meets Mr. Reagan at the White House on May 29.

Jordan and Egypt have been coordinating moves for a just solution to the Palestinian problem in the wake of the Feb. 11 agreement between the Kingdom and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a common strategy for Middle East peace.

Saudi exempted from it this year will be Prince Sultan Ibn Salman, who will be orbiting the earth in the U.S. space shuttle Discovery.

Prince Sultan, the first Arab and Muslim astronaut, recently told the London-based newspaper Al-Sharq Al-Awsat: "It will be difficult to perform Muslim duties because we will be orbiting the earth once every 98 minutes. It will be impossible to pray in the direction of Mecca."

In Iraq, at war with neighbouring Iran since September 1980, President Saddam Hussein has ordered his forces to observe a ceasefire during Ramadan, provided Iran does the same.

Non-Arab Iran, ruled by fundamentalist Shi'ite Muslim clergy who overthrew the late Shah and established an Islamic Republic six years ago, has not yet responded. But with alcohol banned since the 1979 revolution, observance of the fast will be strict.

Muslims in Lebanon are also expected to strictly observe the fast. Muslims are in only a slight majority over Christians in Lebanon, torn by civil war for 10 years. But last year armed vigilante groups in mainly-Muslim west Beirut ordered many bars or restaurants to close or stop selling alcohol during Ramadan.

Egypt, with a large Christian minority has been liberal in its view of Non-Muslim behaviour in the past, but may tighten up this year because of rising undercurrents of Islamic fervour — a draft law before parliament calls for a fine of \$60 and a week's imprisonment for anyone violating the fast.

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Falangists ready to share power to end civil war

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Lebanon's Falangists, dismayed by battlefield defeats and Israel's reluctance to come to their rescue, appear ready for the first time in four decades to share power with their Syrian-backed foes.

By Farouk Nassar
Associated Press

But Falangist readiness to compromise might have come a little too late for the powerful alliance of President Hafez Assad's Syria and the Lebanese Forces' Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militias.

The current surge of sectarian fighting in Beirut suggests the alliance is bent on keeping the military pressure on to drag the battered Falangists to the negotiating table on opposition terms.

The fragmented Falangists have been showing signs of flexibility since their main fighting machine was routed by opposition forces in South Lebanon last month.

The defeat left the estimated 6,000 fighters of the Lebanese Forces, the main Falangist militia in the 10-year civil war, virtually trapped in one tenth of Lebanon's territory, with their backs to the sea.

Their 1,000 square kilometre enclave north of Beirut is flanked by Syrian troops in north and east Lebanon, tough Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) fighters in the Shouf Mountains, and PSP and Shi'ite Muslim fighters in west Beirut.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin have stressed they are not willing to risk Israeli lives to help their beleaguered former allies.

The Israelis have narrowed their occupation zone in South Lebanon to a "security belt" running roughly 10 kilometres parallel to their northern border, from the foothills of Mount Hermon to the Mediterranean coast.

It was only after Israel withdrew from the southern Christian town of Jezzine, east of Sidon, last month that mainly Druze PSP and

opposition militias unleashed their offensive, spearheaded by Soviet-made T-54 tanks. To a string of appeasing moves, the Falangists have since shunted aside the Lebanese Forces' pro-Israeli commander, Samir Geagea.

NEWS ANALYSIS

They have declared support for a civil war settlement under Syria's influence. Moderates have formed a "Christian coalition for united Lebanon" to negotiate the best deal they can get.

Opposition leaders have stressed they will not deal with the Falangists until they sever all links with Israel.

Elie Hobeika, president of the Lebanese Forces' ruling Executive Committee, Saturday closed the militia's liaison office in Israel and ordered the personnel who have been in Israel since 1983 to come home.

The strongest signal that the Falangists were ready to talk came from their elder statesman, former President Camille Chamoun, 85.

He declared last week: "Syria is our first neighbour with whom we aspire to forge close cooperation."

"This cooperation is imperative and I believe it will bring a final end to civil warfare in Lebanon. We want peace. We want reconciliation with all communities that make up the Lebanese nation."

It was the first time a prestigious leader of the Maronite Christians, the dominant force among Lebanon's 1.9 million Christians, had been so conciliatory to Syria.

The Maronites traditionally have resented Syria's influence among Lebanese Muslims, who now make up 2.1 million of the 4 million population.

Through superior diplomacy and negotiating stamina, the Fal-

angists have snatched political victory from the jaws of military defeat time after time in the last 42 years, adamantly refusing opposition demands for equality.

Mr. Chamoun's statements, bolstered by other Falangist leaders, indicated that after dominating Lebanese politics since independence from France in 1943, the Christians have run out of options.

The Syrians, who became the main power brokers in Lebanon after the February 1984 collapse of a U.S. peacekeeping effort, have made no public response to the Falangist overtures yet.

They seem to be waiting as speculation increases that Lebanese President Amin Gemayel will have no choice but to ask Mr. Assad to send his army into Beirut.

The Syrians intervened in 1976 under an Arab League mandate to smother the 19-month first round of the civil war. Their army evacuated Beirut along with PLO commandos after the Israeli invasion in 1982. But they still have about 25,000 troops in north and east Lebanon.

The Syrians could boast a significant political victory if they moved back to Beirut as peacekeepers.

In recent public statements, Syrian leaders have outlined the kind of settlement they envisage based on a Falangist break with Israel and equal power for the opposition in a united Lebanon.

An unwritten 1943 national covenant gave the Maronites the presidency, the army command and chairmanship of the supreme court of appeals.

But the Prime Minister was always a Sunni Muslim and the parliament speaker a Shi'ite.

Now, said Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Damascus' leading expert on Lebanon, "the 1943 formula is dead."

"It is inconceivable, after all that has happened, to return to a dead formula that would reseed the war," he said.

Peres says occupation of Jerusalem should not block efforts for peace

TEL AVIV (Ageoci) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday that the Israeli occupation of Arab East Jerusalem should not stand in the way of peace.

Mr. Peres spoke to thousands of Israelis at a ceremony in Jerusalem where the Israeli army fought its fiercest battle with the Jordanian army in June 1967.

Standing by a memorial flame to fallen soldiers, Mr. Peres said that "before the six day war, we were prepared to live in a divided Jerusalem, in a sovereign Israel."

But a "divided Jerusalem did not ensure peace," he contended. "A united Jerusalem, a Jerusalem that will remain united, should not interfere with establishing peace," he said.

The premier interrupted a session of his cabinet to address the crowd.

Israel annexed Arab Jerusalem 1967 after taking it over and considers the area and its 280,000 Palestinians an integral part of the "Israeli capital." But most of the world, including the United States, maintain that the future of East Jerusalem should be negotiated within the framework of Middle East peace talks.

Mr. Peres contended that Israel prayed for "a Jerusalem that will unite holiness for all believers, a Jerusalem that is Israel's from the standpoint of sovereignty, not the world's from a spiritual standpoint."

Iranian opposition invited to take part in elections

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's only legal opposition party, the Freedom Movement of former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, has been officially invited to take part in presidential elections later this year.

Interior Minister Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri also said the party can reopen its Tehran office, ransacked three months ago by Muslim fundamentalists protesting at the party's policies.

He told a press conference: "The election is free and anyone can run." But the minister added: "We predict they (the Freedom Movement) will gradually change their conditions for running in the election as we approach it, ultimately saying they will not run because there is no freedom."

President Ali Khamenei, 45 and Iran's third president since the Islamic Revolution, completes a four-year term in October and has not yet revealed whether he will stand again.

Khamenei's sister accuses Khomeini of executing thousands

LONDON (AP) — Badri Khamenei, the sister of Iranian President Ali Khamenei, said she defected to Iraq because of the execution of thousands of Iranians in the name of Islam, the Sunday Times reported.

In an interview in Baghdad, Mrs. Khamenei accused the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of not being true to Islam and said she could not return to Iraq as long as he is alive.

"Khomeini is spreading the word of God by force. They execute thousands in the name of Islam, but this is against our religion," she was quoted as saying.

Mrs. Khamenei arrived in the Iraqi capital recently with her five children after travelling for six days over a route she refused to

disclose, the weekly paper said. She joined her exiled husband, Sheikh Ali Tehrani, a clergyman.

Mrs. Khamenei, a former supporter of the Islamic Revolution, was quoted as saying in the interview with reporter Rachel Riley that she began to change her mind about Iran's direction under Khomeini two years ago.

"They arrested and executed 20 of my friends, and two of them, an art student and his wife, were the best friends of my brother Ali. They killed Qassem, the student, in a particularly ugly way, by extracting all the blood from his body and then cutting off his legs and laying them on his chest."

"He was accused of being involved in the assassination of a par-

liamentary candidate, but there was no real evidence against him. When I asked Ali about it, he wouldn't say anything except to say he had changed his mind about his friend," she was quoted as saying.

Of her five brothers and sisters, Mrs. Khamenei said she was closest to Ali, who taught her Arabic and read poetry to her. But after her husband escaped, she said he refused to help her get a passport.

"I pleaded with him, and we argued and shouted. I told him that if he didn't help me then I would leave Iran anyway — illegally," she was quoted as saying.

Later, through an intermediary, she approached Khomeini's son, Ahmad, but he said he couldn't help either.



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20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
23:00 News in Arabic

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18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:20 Sports Magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 I Guitara - eps. 6
21:00 Canadian Film
21:10 Grace Kelly - eps. 1
22:00 News in English
22:20 Murder She Wrote

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07:45 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session Contd.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Summary
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 The 15th Century A.H.
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:15 Special Feature
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of works by Zeena Shukry daily at the Petra Bank Art Gallery (except Fridays).

* An exhibition on famous German composers (Heinrich Schütz, Johann Sebastian Bach, George Handel) at the Goethe Institute.

* "Visages de la Provence" at the French Cultural Centre.

FILM

* The ABC News - The McLaughlin Group - at 6.00 p.m. at the American Centre.

THEATRE

* "A play entitled 'Aria Da Capo' at 7.30 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre."

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 6361708
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 642039
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Art Centre 665195
Hussain Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. 644251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00

ARRIVALS

10:30 Aqaba (RJ)
10:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:20 Beirut (RJ, MEA)
11:50 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
16:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
17:15 Baghdad (IA)
17:25 Belgrade, Istanbul (TU)
18:15 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
19:30 Bangkok (RJ)
19:45 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:50 Frankfurt (LH)
07:50 Damascus, Athens (OA)
08:00 Beirut (RJ, MEA)
08:15 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
08:45 Baghdad (IA)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (MS)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)
17:40 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
18:15 Baghdad (IA)
20:30 Kuwait (RJ)
20:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
20:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
20:45 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
21:15 Jeddah (RJ)
21:15 Dubai (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:45 Cairo (RJ)

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 634590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwdeh, 637440.
De la Saie Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 623533.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 717131.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 715261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 717151.
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational): meets of Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 616 Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.

PRAYER TIMES

03:00 Fajr
05:34 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:32 Dhur
16:13 'Asr
19:31 Maghreb
21:05 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 63300-5, where it should always be verified.

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

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— Alsalimiah
— Golden Audland
— Revit
— Viva One
— Nedlloyd Rochester

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MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jk

Belgian franc 65 / 65.5
Dutch guilder 116 / 116.9
Egyptian guinea 287.3 / 291.3
French franc 42.9 / 43.2
Iraqi dinar 396.6 / 402.3
Italian lire (for 100) 20.4 / 20.7
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.1 / 161.4
Kuwaiti dinar 1330.3 / 1338.3
Lebanese lira 25 / 26
Omani rial 1160 / 1166.6
Qatari riyal 110 / 110.8
Saudi riyal 110.4 / 112
Swedish crown 44.7 / 45.1
Swiss franc 154.7 / 155.9
Syrian lira 36.1 / 37.1
U.A.E. dirham 109.1 / 110.8
U.K. sterling pound 508.7 / 512.8
U.S. dollar 401 / 403.5
W. German mark 131.5 / 132.4

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively warm. Light and variable winds will become northerly in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman 18 / 31
Aqaba 19 / 36
Deserts 16 / 34
Jordan Valley 17 / 38

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 39.

Humidity readings: Amman 23 per cent, Aqaba 15 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman Governorate 891238
Amman Civil Defence 198,199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qusweish 770733
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630541
Blood bank 778305
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 6220903
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 8963901
Electric power Co. 636381/4, 634981
Municipal water complaints 77125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53330/60

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Yousef Al Horani 625478
Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf 625730
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Nabed pharmacy 669359
Nabed pharmacy 669359
Nabed pharmacy 669359
Nabed pharmacy 669359

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 81381/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 6432816
Alkhalidi Maternity, J. Amman 64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 64011/14
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845/65
Al-Muasher Hospital 66727/79
The Islamic, Abdali 666123/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666123/7
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77710/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/25
Army, Marka 89161/15

GENERAL

Jordan Television 77311/19
Radio Jordan 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism 642111
Hotel complaints 666112
Price complaints 666176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upperflower price in Jk per kg.
Apples 280 / 280
Bananas 280 / 280
Banana (Mukammal) 240 / 210
Onion (dry) 110 / 90
Onion (green) 120 / 90
Beans 170 / 140
Broad beans 100 / 70
Cabbage 60 / 40
Carrot (without leaves) 100 / 80
Cucumber (large) 80 / 50
Cucumber (small) 170 / 140
Eggplant (large) 100 / 70
Eggplant (small) 110 / 80
Garlic 180 / 150
Grapefruit 250 / 200
Lemon 250 / 200
Mallow 250 / 200

Marrow (large) 140 / 100
Marrow (small) 270 / 230
Custard (dry) 110 / 90
Potatoes 120 / 90
Parsley 120 / 100
Peas (American) 600 / 540
Pepper (sweet) 170 / 130
Pepper (hot) 210 / 160
Potatoes 180 / 150
Radishes 70 / 50
Spinach 120 / 100
Tomatoes 120 / 90
Vine leaves 250 / 200
Apricots 450 / 400
Sweet melon 350 / 300
Water melon 150 / 100

Education Ministry prepares for school examinations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nearly 45,700 students from Jordan will sit for the General Secondary Certificate Examinations this summer while those in the West Bank number about 12,677, Ministry of Education Director of Examinations Mohammad Al Jamal said in an interview published here Sunday.

He said students who have completed the preparatory stage and who will sit for general examinations are 56,540 in the East Bank and 17,896 in the West Bank. The examinations have been set to take place on June 6 and will last for eight days.

The Ministry of Education has made arrangements to hold the general secondary and pre-

paratory examinations and has recruited sufficient numbers of teachers to invigilate and mark the papers in the shortest possible time, Mr. Al Jamal said.

Also, the Ministries of Defence, Health and Interior will cooperate with the Ministry of Education by providing services for the students and the teachers throughout the examination session, he said.

Regarding blind and handicapped students, he said that special arrangements have been made to enable blind students to dictate answers to a clerk to write for them on the answer sheets.

Prisoners in jails and reformatory centres will be able to sit for the exams under special arrangements, he concluded.



The Upper House of Parliament holds an extraordinary session Sunday (Petra photo)

Government keen to develop agricultural sector — Dakhqan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government is keen to develop the agricultural sector because it is a main source of national income, Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan said here Sunday.

Speaking at a meeting with a delegation representing farmers in Mafrqa district, the minister stressed the important role of the private sector in contributing towards agricultural production and promoting animal husbandry.

The government will carry out an integrated agricultural policy and will make the best possible use of available water for irrigation by employing scientific techniques and will also exert efforts to solve marketing problems, the minister pointed out.

He said that the government is concerned to fix a minimum rate for prices of agricultural produce with the object of safeguarding the interests of both producers and consumers. The government will have to re-examine laws, legislations and regulations in this respect, the minister added. Mr. Dakhqan also stressed the importance of such meetings between farmers and officials to exchange views and to study problems together.

Salem Al Lawzi said that the ministry's policy of applying agricultural cropping patterns is designed to stem problems which farmers face in production and marketing. He expressed hope that this policy, which is being implemented for the first time in Jordan, will succeed. Dr. Lawzi pointed out that the Ministry of Agriculture has been assisted in applying this new cropping system by experienced farmers and he added that the country as a whole will benefit from this policy in the coming years.

Also in relation to agriculture, Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Saturday received a delegation representing the agricultural cooperative societies in Nabulus, Janin and Toulkarm districts in the occupied West Bank. They discussed problems which farmers face in shipping and marketing their products.

The prime minister, according to the local press, expressed understanding of the situation and the farmers' requests which included, among other things, the establishment of a federation of agricultural cooperatives and permission to sell 50 per cent of agricultural produce, especially potatoes from Toulkarm, to Jordan. The West Bank farmers also requested the introduction of measures to ease the passage of agricultural products to the East Bank.

Cropping patterns

During the meeting, Ministry of Agriculture Under-Secretary Bank

Jordan, Holland to cooperate in postal services

AMMAN (Petra) — The director general of post, telegram and telephone services in the Netherlands left Amman Sunday ending a week-long official visit to Jordan during which he held talks with Minister of Communications Mohyeddin Al Hussein, the ministry's under-secretary Mansour Ibn Tarif and Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director General Mohammad Shaded Ismail. He also visited a number of postal centres and the Jordanian satellite station.

The Dutch official also signed a programme for joint work with Mr. Ibn Tarif which provides for full cooperation and coordination in postal and telegrams services. The programme provides for arranging a number of training courses for the ministry's employees who will receive instruction in postal services in Holland. The Dutch guest also agreed with Mr. Ismail to hold a joint seminar in 1986 in Amman to discuss the commissioning and maintenance of telephone networks. He was seen off by Mr. Ibn Tarif and senior ministry officials.

Upper, Lower Houses hold extraordinary session

Parliament approves draft law on higher education

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament, in an extraordinary session Sunday, approved the higher education draft law for the year 1985 and an amendment to the law of organising natural resources affairs after the laws had been approved, endorsed and referred to the Senate by the Lower House of Parliament which met earlier in the day.

The session opened under the chairmanship of Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and Parliament's Secretary General Ahmad Al Aqillah declared the formation of a legal committee to discuss the natural resources organisation affairs law. An education committee was also formed to discuss and approve the higher education law. Both laws were earlier approved by the Lower House of Parliament's extraordinary session under the chairmanship of Speaker Akel Al Fayed.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai requested the Senate to tackle the draft higher education law due to its urgency and the Senate approved his request. Deputy Zoukan Al Hindawi, rapporteur of the education committee, announced the approval of the draft higher education law and praised the government's new policy to give due attention to education by establishing the Ministry of Higher Education.

The legal committee, which studied the amendment to the law of organising natural resources affairs, approved the law and committee spokesman deputy Ahmad Al Tarawneh announced the Senate's approval of the law as well as nine revised provisional laws. A draft law for cancelling the Hotels and Tourist Resthouses Corporation law for 1985, a provisional revised law for 1978 for the formation of Islamic courts, a provisional revised law for 1979 for the for-

mation of Islamic courts, a provisional revised law for 1983 for the formation of Islamic courts, two provisional revised laws for 1980 for the foundation of Islamic court hearings, a provisional revised law for 1975 for the law of the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Training Institute, a provisional revised law for the year 1975 for the Royal Jordanian Air Academy and a provisional revised law for the year 1977 for the Royal Jordanian Air Academy.

At the end of the session, Mr. Rifai thanked both committees for their response to his earlier requests and expressed his gratitude for the approval of the higher education draft law as suggested by the government, despite the slight changes to some of its articles which were amended by the Lower House of Parliament in their meeting Sunday.

Mr. Aqillah read out the higher education draft law at the beginning of the Lower House extraordinary session and the House adjourned the session until a joint legal and education committee revised the law and announced its recommendations and approval.

The committee recommended that the Ministry of Higher Education study in depth the status of local community colleges in terms of their fields of specialisation, their programmes and educational plans in order that there is more cooperation between such colleges and the Jordanian universities, especially in the transfer of students.

The committee also made some verbal amendments to the draft law which were later approved by the Lower House members. Amendments were also made to the law of organising natural resources affairs. These two laws were then referred to the Senate for final approval.

Mr. Rifai expressed his gratitude to the joint committee which studied the draft law. He added that despite the fact that there is no space for their recommendation concerning more cooperation between community colleges and local universities, he promised the House that the government will give it due attention.

Mr. Fayed conveyed the deputies' congratulations to the prime minister for the vote of confidence in the new government. Mr. Fayed also read out the reply of Mr. Rifai to the deputies vote of confidence in his new government in which he pointed out the importance of constructive, democratic dialogue in which sincerity prevails. Mr. Rifai also reiterated his government's support and cooperation with the Lower House of Parliament which he said will be to the country's benefit and welfare.

Both sessions were quiet and orderly and no remarkable debates or arguments arose.

Aims of new law

The main aims of the draft law for higher education are to offer students a wider range of sciences and applied skills which will offer certain fields of specialisation in wider scientific and educational horizons.

The law is also geared to supply the socio-economic and educational development plans with the required manpower to serve the community and the country. Another aim is to support scientific research through upgrading its standard and linking research with the community's needs and development and production plans.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FAO assists poultry centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) is helping the Ministry of Agriculture to set up a regional centre for developing poultry production and combating related diseases, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Hindawi tours Perene district

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Governor Turki Hindawi Sunday inspected Perene area in Zarqa district governorate. During his tour, Mr. Hindawi was briefed on requests and needs of citizens residing in the area. Mr. Hindawi also paid visits to several industrial projects located in the area.

Committee introduces transport facilities

AMMAN (Petra) — The traffic committee in Amman Governorate Sunday decided to allow overland travellers to the Kingdom to carry their personal belongings in private cars. The committee also agreed to operate pick-ups to transport goods from Amman customs at a cost of JD two per trip and also gave permission to clearing companies to transport samples from customs provided that cargo offices charge JD 10 per month for this facility.

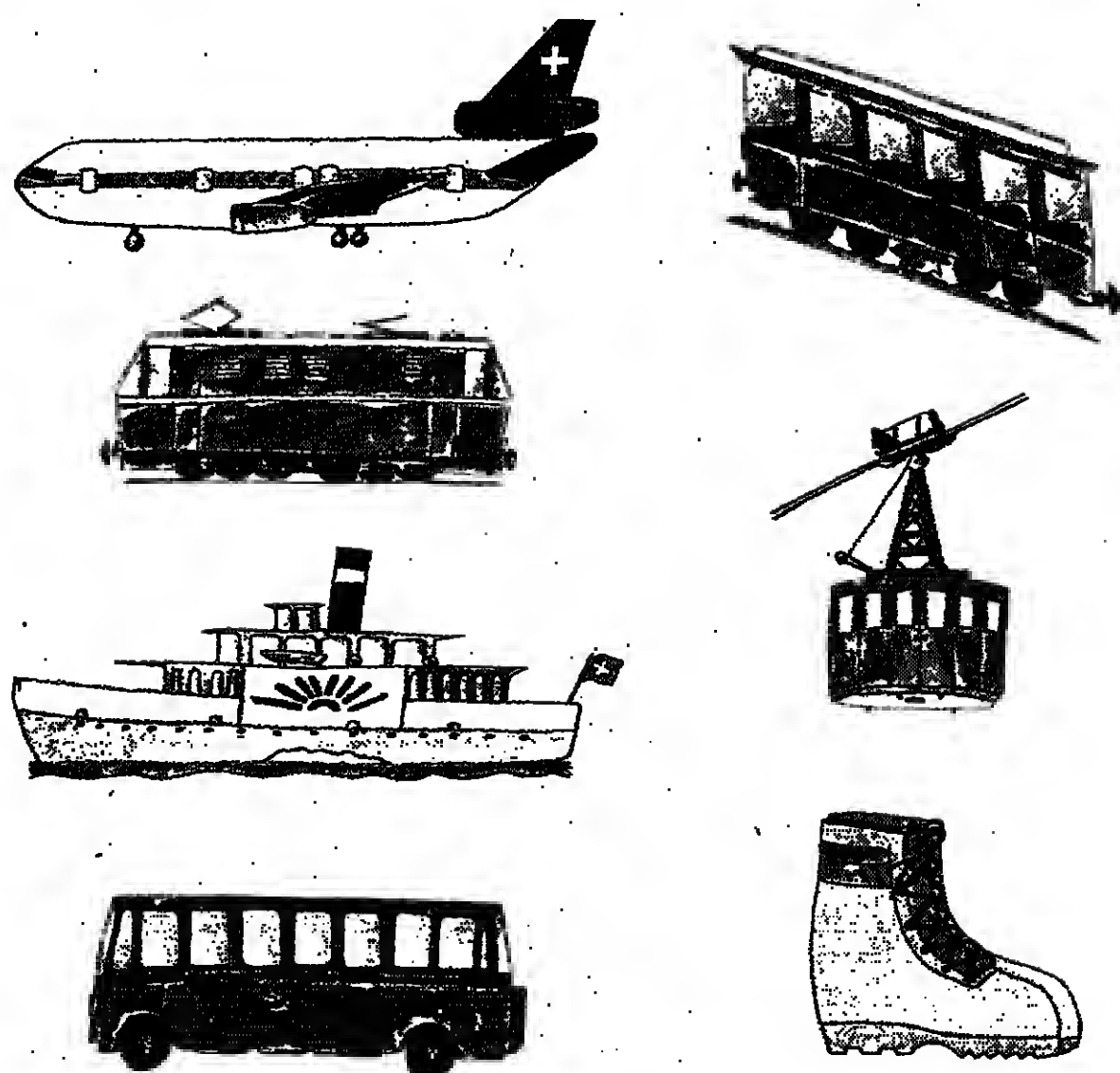
Seminar on asphalt opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day seminar on asphalt used to build roads started at Yarmouk University Liaison Office Sunday. Representatives of the Ministry of Public Works, the Jordanian Engineers Association and specialists from Britain, Iraq, Kuwait and Bahrain are discussing research papers connected with asphalt, its specifications and mixtures used on roads in Jordan.

Hisban village improves roads, services

AMMAN (Petra) — Hisban village council has completed work on constructing 20,000 square metres of village roads at a total cost of JD 35,000 chairman of the village council Hamed Masbaleh has said. Mr. Masbaleh added that all quarters of the villages have been linked to water and electricity supplies and he called on all citizens to pay the amounts due for the connections.

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New hope for Lebanon

DESPITE the fact that the problems of Lebanon grow more critical every day, there is still hope that the Lebanese themselves will be able to reach national reconciliation and return to their country its stability and sovereignty. Only along this path can Lebanon hope to restore itself and rebuild a country torn so much, for so long, by strife and destruction.

Lebanon's 1943 agreement, by which the Lebanese have hitherto shared unequal power, has to be revised and amended so that all Lebanese communities share equal power and show real respect for each other's rights and national aspirations. The latest reports from the Falangist camp, indicating a new willingness to talk and meet the opposition half-way in their demands, are positive and encouraging. Especially important in this respect is the decision of the "Lebanese Forces" to close their "liaison office" in Israel and to turn over control of the town of Jezzine to the Lebanese army.

The question of foreign troop withdrawals from the country remains a thorny issue. But unless the central government and all feuding factions are prepared to negotiate the insuperable barrier — that of the outdated "gentlemen's agreement" of 1943, which perpetuated Christian domination in a country that now has a Muslim majority — there can be no real prospect for peace. And as Israel prepares its withdrawal to the so-called "security zone", the situation can only be aggravated in the absence of any immediate national reconciliation among the Lebanese themselves.

The hope of restoring Lebanon's unity and independence lies not so much with the wishes of external powers as in making the required internal readjustment in Lebanon itself. For us, the best solution for the problems of Lebanon is that which takes into account the need for the Lebanese, their Arab brothers and their real friends to be the best arbiters of their own anxieties.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Iranians cannot take more

THE GREAT wrath of the Iranian people against their leaders and the on-going Gulf war finally emerged in the form of violent demonstrations in the streets of Tehran and other Iranian cities. The demonstrations are in condemnation of the regime's persistence in pursuing an ever-losing war with Iraq.

The new development reflects the Iranian people's disbelief in the justifications and pretexts of their leaders about the need to continue the war against Iraq. The demonstrations mean that the Iranian masses have now entered a new phase that could eventually bring about the downfall of the Khomeini regime as they did with the Shah. The masses' demonstrations in the streets could be the first step that would end the conflict between Iraq and Iran. The regime should understand this serious development and consider the protests of the people as a warning of the looming end of the tyrants, who are displaying their hostile attitude towards all Arabs and Muslims.

Iraq has been calling for peace and has extended a hand of conciliation to its neighbour, and the Iranian leaders should now respond favourably to their Iraqi neighbours and should listen to reason and the warnings of the Iranian people.

Al Dustour: Saud's visit nourishes hopes

SAUDI ARABIA'S foreign minister's visit to Tehran came as a surprise to observers of Middle East political affairs. But this visit drew the attention of many people not because it was the first by a Saudi official to Tehran since the outbreak of the Gulf war but because all Arabs were and still are, expecting something positive to emerge from the talks which Prince Saud Al Faisal held with the Iranian leaders.

No doubt the visit reflects Saudi Arabia's keenness on ending the five-year old war, which has brought about so much suffering and destruction. This visit was backed not only by the Gulf Cooperation Council members but also by Islamic nations. The visit was a real development and Iraq's favourable response to calls for a halt of war activity during the holy month of Ramadan could also be instrumental in reducing tension and finally lead to a just settlement. If the Iranians respond to the visit and the call for a ceasefire during Ramadan then they would offer a very positive indication of the opportunities for a solution.

Despite Saud Al Faisal's difficult task, he would leave no stone unturned in the search for an end to the present deadlock and in search for peace. We hope that the outcome of the visit will be positive and will eventually lead to an end to the war.

Sawt Al Shaab: Will Tehran listen to reason?

THE PRESENT lull along the Iraqi-Iranian frontlines has paved the way for political efforts aimed at ending the Gulf war. But we believe that these efforts would not lead to positive results as long as the Iranian regime is sticking to its demands and intransigent position. Despite a visit to Tehran by Saudi Arabia's foreign minister and his talks with Iranian leaders, there is no indication at all that the Iranians are willing to change their position towards Iraq.

Though the visit was a light of hope for Muslims, and despite the fact that it represented a new Arab bid for a settlement, we do not believe that the Tehran rulers will respond to reason. The Iranians who called Prince Saud Al Faisal to Tehran for talks are in the habit of resorting to such political contacts whenever they are in a tight situation, and always in the wake of defeats in the battlefield. The political contacts are a means for further procrastination and averting real and serious negotiations for a settlement.

Iran has so far rejected all peace bids at all levels, has disregarded Iraq's call for an end to the conflict and continues to adopt hostile stands towards the Arab nation. Therefore, nothing could be expected from new mediation despite the region's dire need for peace.

Less than extreme caution in CIA's Beirut terror

By Joseph Kraft

WASHINGTON — The latest front-page appearance of the CIA provides one more piece of irrefutable evidence that the United States should engage in ambitious covert operations only with the utmost caution.

Even if the agency were absolutely first-class in such matters, which it is not, the nature of American society makes exposure of failure practically certain. When that occurs, American agents become subject to retaliation and a precious resource of national security, the whole intelligence community, gets a black eye.

Terrorism in Lebanon provides the background to the most recent fiasco. As that country began to disintegrate in factional warfare last year, Americans on the spot became increasingly subject to violent incidents, ranging from threats through kidnapping to car bomb attacks on the U.S. Embassy and the marine headquarters in Beirut. Seven top officials — including Secretary of State George Shultz, CIA Director William Casey and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane — came to the conclusion the United States should develop, if only to protect its agents, a covert capacity to penetrate a preempt action by anti-American terrorist organizations.

At the end of 1984, Mr. Reagan signed the order authorizing such action. His decision was cleared with the chairman and vice chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence committees. With those mandates, the CIA began to develop a covert counterintelligence capability in cooperation with the intelligence arm of the government of President Amin Gemayel. But the Lebanese regime is more a faction among factions than a central government.

After receiving American training in counterterrorism, Lebanese intelligence agents went into business for themselves. On March 8 they tried to wipe out Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, the leader of an extremist Shiite group thought to be responsible for terrorist attacks against Americans in Lebanon.

A powerful bomb was exploded near his home in the outskirts of Beirut. Some 80 people were killed by the explosion, but not Mr. Fadlallah. The story of that fiasco leaked. An account was published in The Washington Post of May 12. Even before the story was out, various parties began running for cover.

Some officials in the CIA claimed they had always insisted that the operation be limited to fact-gathering, because anti-terrorist

operations were too dangerous. The CIA itself put out a statement saying it had "no foreknowledge of the bombing incident." The agency disclaimed "any training of Lebanese security forces" involved in the March 8 incident.

Other intelligence operative blamed Congress for leaking the story, and the press for publishing it. They asserted that vengeance would now be wreaked on American agents in Lebanon. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, the new Democratic vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, indicated that he wanted to put some questions — as if he were not bound by the actions of the previous vice chairman.

Second-guessing failure is nearly as odious as trying to shift the blame to others. But there are constants that run back from the Beirut incident through the mining of Nicaraguan harbors to many previous episodes. They provide a set of the givens, the normal ingredients that have to be considered in planning any covert operations — the material for first-guessing.

For one thing, America is an open society. Government agencies constantly bicker with one another, taking their complaints to Congress and to the press and television. It is naive to the point of criminal stupidity to suppose that large-scale operations, if they do not succeed, can long be kept secret. Failure will out.

Second, working with foreign agents is particularly tricky. They have their own agendas. They usually have scores to settle with various parties in their own country. Some of their targets are not necessarily the targets of American foreign policy. Foreigners working in the terrorist field especially tend to be flaky, and they are therefore doubly unreliable.

Third, the cost of published failure runs high. The intelligence community comes back into the public pillory. U.S. agents abroad become subject to retaliation. A major asset of foreign policy is weakened, if not paralyzed.

Extreme caution should be exercised before engaging in covert operations. But the Reagan administration has thrown caution to the winds. Except for the oversight committees of Congress, it has practically wiped out institutional checks on dubious intelligence business. It has converted the president's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board into a haven for rightwingers. And it has maintained at the helm of Central Intelligence a figure who combines insensitivity to ethical questions, with a gung-ho spirit when it comes to clandestine operations of the most extensive kind — William Casey — Los Angeles Times.



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Guest Column

By Nasser S. Judeh

Jewish lobby manipulates Bitburg

THE RECENT Jewish fury over President Reagan's visit to the Bitburg cemetery in Germany did not come as a surprise. For the Jews have taught us to expect these periodic reminders of their sufferings during the world war II. This by no means undermines the hardships inflicted upon the Jews by the Third Reich of Nazi Germany. On the contrary, it is up to each and everyone of us to prevent such savagery from ever taking place on this earth again. The salient point is that the Jews were not the only victims of that tragic period of recent history.

The war involved more than 50 nations costing the world many millions of innocent human lives. Moreover, many racial, religious, political and social entities were victimised during the course of those six horrific years. These people, along with all the others who were contemporaries of that war have one common objective: They are determined to put those tragic memories behind and create a better world for generations to come. The only exception to this worldwide attitude is the world Jewry and particularly the Jewish community in the United States. They have declared many a time that they will neither forgive nor forget.

Instead, they repeatedly point the finger at each one of us and this serves them in two inter-related ways:
1- By Super-imposing a global feeling of guilt once in a while, they attempt to enhance their own political power when and if this power seems to be eroding or weakening due to a variety of variables.
2- They utilise their enhanced political power to increase their political leverage, particularly in the U.S., and this in turn serves to strengthen the military and political structures of Israel.

How is it that the Jews of America have so much access to political power houses and why is it that when a U.S. president joins hands with the rest of the world, in an attempt to put the tragic past behind, his initiative is attacked and stripped of its meaning by Jews who claim that he has "offended their memories"? Most

importantly, how did these public Jewish feelings overshadow the president's own significant trip to attend the economic summit in Europe? The answer to these questions is well known to all of us: This is the Jewish lobby at play. What is the Jewish lobby? Where does its power lie? And is it really as powerful as it seems?

It is estimated that there are approximately 500 different Jewish organisations concerned with and acting on behalf of Israel and its interests in the United States. More than half of those organisations are national ones and the remainder are either local interest groups or collection agencies operating under the camouflage of welfare agencies. The vanguard of the Jewish lobby in America consists of the three most influential organisations: the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC), the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations (Presidents' Conference), and the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

NJCRAC represents a substantial number of local organisations and 10 national ones. It holds regular conventions which include prominent guests and guest speakers from key positions in the American government. The Presidents' Conference on the other hand speaks for over thirty national organisations and its power and influence lie in the fact that it is prominent within the diplomatic circles and the American media. Finally, AIPAC prides itself with being the only organisation that acts specifically on behalf of a foreign government, that being Israel of course. AIPAC lives on contributions and direct appeals to individuals and other sources. What makes it different from the other two organisations is that it does not charge the government of Israel for services rendered.

What are the major achievements and failures (insignificant as they may be) of these three organisations, particularly regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict?

As far as NJCRAC is concerned, its achievements have essentially been the ability to rally support from within the consecutive American administrations. This is usually done by inviting key figures to participate in its various functions, during which the grievances and demands of Israel are submitted, discussed and analysed.

The activities of the Presidents' Conference differ somewhat in that they are more internationally oriented. Their delegations meet regularly with foreign heads of state visiting Washington and foreign ambassadors to the U.S. capital. Perhaps the perfect display of its power is related to the 1975 U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism. The various delegations of the Presidents' Conference met and corresponded with the majority of U.N. delegations, urging the ones who voted for the resolution not to do so again and asking the ones who voted against it to obstruct any future resolutions of the same nature. The organisation fought viciously against the government of Mexico which voted for the resolution. To that effect Jewish travel facilities and agencies were instructed to stop sponsoring tours to Mexico, which has a substantial Jewish minority. Mexico's tourist industry suffered a great deal in consequence.

As for AIPAC, it has been referred to as one of the most effective interest groups in Washington. This statement is as close to reality as possible. AIPAC's power is derived mainly from the lack of restrictions imposed on it by the American government. Being an organisation that represents a foreign government, AIPAC does not have to adhere to American tax and other related domestic laws and regulations. AIPAC operates and functions as a lobby group in the true sense of the term. It is said that since the early 1970s AIPAC has been partially responsible for 12-14 billion dollars in American aid to Israel. Furthermore, AIPAC is constantly on the move using its political leverage to influence Congress into rejecting arms sales proposed for Arab countries, such as happened during the AWACS deal. In that particular incident AIPAC failed to prevent the sale, but the equipment sold to the Saudis was downgraded to the extent that Israel itself almost approved it.

The Jewish lobby's achievements and victories by far outnumber the failures. So far, its so-called major failures have been the A.W.A.C.S. deal and the inability to force the U.S. government to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. But we still have not answered the main question: where does the bulk of its power lie? The answer is that it has the ability and access channels to argue its case in public thus appealing to the sympathy of the non-Jewish majority of the American population. Its arguments, opinions, demands and grievances appear in major newspapers, books, films, television, and periodical publications, all of which serve to defend Israel and its policies.

In so far as the presidential elections are concerned, Israel and its supporters in the U.S. claim that the small number of Jews in America does not allow them to "make or break" a presidential candidate. The fact of the matter is that the Jewish vote can be decisive to an extent, in that Jewish communities are for the most part concentrated in the states that carry the most electoral college votes.

In conclusion, is the Jewish lobby impregnable or can it be combatted and competed against? The answer is yes, it can be combatted but the task is a heavy one. Even other minority groups which happen to outnumber the Jewish community in America find it extremely difficult to compete against the power and influence of the Jewish voice. As for the Arabs of America, they are earnestly trying to do just that. The prominent Arab-American organisations such as the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), and the National Association of Arab Americans have claimed a few substantial public victories in the recent past. It is all a question of resolve and persistence, as well as locating potential areas of interest. After all "when there is a will there is a way".



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Dam: 'Territory for peace' is fair negotiating basis

WASHINGTON — U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Dam says that a growing cooperative spirit can make 1985 a year of opportunity for lasting peace in the Middle East.

Speaking in Washington May 16 before the American Law Institute, Mr. Dam said the United States continues to play an active role in translating the desire of Israel, Jordan, Egypt and many Palestinians for movement toward peace into a concrete agreement based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

Mr. Dam reiterated President Reagan's statement that the basis of the U.S. effort in the Arab-Israeli conflict remains negotiations involving an exchange of "territory for peace," a formula which Mr. Dam said is "enshrined in Resolution 242."

Following are major excerpts of Mr. Dam's remarks, as prepared for delivery.

The Middle East is a region of diversity, complexity, and turbulence. It is a strategic crossroads, a source of vital energy supplies, and the birthplace and confluence of three great religions. No wonder it has long been a focus of the world's attention. No wonder its challenges have a particular urgency. The dramas of the Middle East have a special compelling quality — in human and moral terms, as well as strategic. And I know that the region's many complex issues of international law have made it of particular interest to lawyers.

The Arab-Israeli conflict, of course, receives the lion's share of our attention, but we should bear in mind that it is but one element of a broad set of issues. Today, we must also be concerned about the continuing dangers in a large and volatile area where the United States and the West have an enormous strategic stake.

Many of the region's problems have from time to time become intertwined with the Arab-Israeli conflict. Nevertheless, each one, by itself, poses serious challenges to our policies in the region. To ignore their impact would be foolish and dangerous. Nor can we delude ourselves that these challenges will disappear when the Arab-Israeli conflict is resolved. Terrorism, instability, and the Soviet presence are long-term problems in the Middle East. Our own interest requires, therefore, that we apply ourselves to all the region's challenges over the long haul.

In the wake of Secretary Shultz's recent visit to the area, I should like today to focus on the Middle East peace process — on why this administration is so active at this time in the Middle East. For more than three decades, and particularly in the last dozen years, the United States has been an important player in regional diplomacy. But we have never lost sight of one central fact: Our efforts to promote peace depend ultimately on the willingness of the regional actors to seek peace. As lawyers, you all know that negotiations can resolve disputes, but you also know that for negotiations to succeed, the parties themselves must want and then actively seek a resolution.

The U.S.-Israeli relationship

Our involvement in the Middle East stems, above all, from our close relations with the peoples of the region. Since the founding of the State of Israel, for instance, the American people have been committed on both moral and strategic grounds to the security of that nation. In the aftermath of the Holocaust, we have all felt deeply the justice and necessity of helping preserve a land where Jews can live as Jews in a nation of their own. Our close ties to Israel are reinforced by that nation's commitment to ideals and principles that are the foundation of our own society: freedom, democracy, and the rule of law. As the years passed, Americans also came to see the growing importance of Israel as a strategic partner in a region of superpower contention. Today, Americans know that Israel is a staunch and reliable friend in a dangerous world.

Our relationship with Israel is now closer and stronger than ever. A year and a half ago, we began a long-overdue process of strategic cooperation and consultation. We are working with the Israeli government to help Israel manage its economic problems effectively. On April 22, we signed a unique and far-reaching Free Trade Area Agreement to open up our respective markets to each other's goods and services.

Our commitment to Israel's security is supported by economic and military assistance that makes up more than one-quarter of our entire foreign assistance programme.

We also know that durable peace and security for Israel can only come when it is recognised and accepted by its neighbours. Our commitment to a secure Israel, therefore, is indissolubly linked to our search for peace.

The U.S.-Arab relationship

Our close friendships in the

Arab World are another reason for our deep involvement in the Middle East. Like the people of Israel, the Arab World is heir to a proud history and civilisation that have enriched mankind. The United States has had a long association with the moderate Arab states. American companies, universities, hospitals, and private voluntary organisations have a long history of constructive activity in the region. Extensive military and economic cooperation and assistance has helped assure mutual security and well-being. The friendship, security, and economic and political stability of the moderate Arab states are important to us.

Our strategic interests

Finally, our involvement in the Middle East is grounded in our strategic interests. The Middle East is a region of vital importance to the West.

The United States is firmly committed to helping friendly states in the region develop the capability to defend themselves against aggression or subversion. Our security cooperation with our Arab friends — our willingness to provide them with the wherewithal to defend themselves — is important to that commitment. Similarly, our security cooperation with Israel, designed to enable American and Israeli forces to cooperate in countering the "Soviet threat," is another important asset.

Thus, a lasting peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours would also make the task of protecting our strategic interests in the region much easier.

What should the American role be?

The question, then, is how do we promote peace? What should our diplomatic role be?

We have long been a key factor in the search for peace. Both sides have sought our help. Such an American role is indispensable — and it is unique. The Soviet Union has excluded itself from any possibility of playing a constructive role. It has failed to maintain relations with Israel; it has not tried to moderate its "clients"; indeed it has supported the forces of radicalism and violence.

America's unique position as an honest broker trusted by both sides has resulted in a number of successes. Our diplomacy helped secure the Sinai disengagement agreements of 1974 and 1975, Israeli-Syrian disengagement of 1974, and most important, the Camp David accords and the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Our goal for the future is to build on these past successes to secure a lasting peace between Israel and all of its neighbours.

But as we seek this goal, we must be guided by the lessons of the past.

One of the most important lessons we have learned is that a strong, visible, and permanent American commitment to Israel is essential in the search for peace. History demonstrates that movement toward peace can come only when no one in the Arab World or elsewhere has any doubt of the central reality that America's support for Israel can never be weakened.

Israel has shown that it will not change its policies in the face of military or terrorist threats, nor will the policies of the United States ever yield to terror or intimidation. Let no one miss the point: there are no military options. There are no terrorist options. The only way to achieve progress is through negotiations. The PLO attempt last month to stage a seaborne "terrorist" raid against Israel is unacceptable and can only obstruct movement towards peace. There will be no rewards for a strategy of attempting to shoot and negotiate at the same time.

We also know that Arab nations and individuals willing to move toward peace take risks. Radicals in the region use "terrorism" and threats of war not only against Americans and Israelis, but against Arabs and Palestinians who work for negotiations.

Those who take risks for peace should know that the United States will continue to support all who seek peaceful solutions against those who promote violence and oppose peace.

America's task is to help the parties find ways to enter into direct negotiations. Our role requires persistence and active engagement. But the key decisions must be made by the parties themselves, willingly and free from coercion. Once the parties themselves have made the all-important decision to negotiate, we will participate actively, as we have in the past.

In preaching the efficacy of negotiations, we have urged our Israeli and Arab friends to avoid seeking guarantees in advance of the outcome of negotiations. There should be no preconditions. The place to negotiate is at the bargaining table.

As President Reagan said on Sept. 1, 1982, "we base our approach squarely on the principle

that the Arab-Israeli conflict should be resolved through negotiations involving an exchange of territory for peace." The land-for-peace formula was enshrined in U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and remains the basis of our effort.

As the president spelled out in his initiative, "the United States will not support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, and we will not support annexation or permanent control by Israel." We see self-government by the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan as offering the best chance for a durable, just and lasting peace. We foresee a transitional period, "during which the Palestinian inhabitants ... will have full autonomy over their own affairs."

The president expressed the fervent hope that the Palestinians and Jordan, with the support of their Arab colleagues, would accept this opportunity.

The peace process today

Today, there is renewed hope. The United States shares the view of the key players in the region that 1985 can be a year of opportunity, if the parties take advantage of today's promising conditions.

In the past year and a half, there has been a growing cooperative

spirit and unity of purpose among the moderate Arab states that favour progress toward peace.

Egypt, once ostracised for making peace with Israel, is regaining its leadership position in the Arab World — without compromising its commitment to peace. Jordan's bold decision last September to restore relations with Egypt was a key step in this process. Our re-establishment of relations with Iraq last November, together with our improving relations with Algeria symbolised by President Benjedid's visit here in April, represent tangible steps toward greater and wider cooperation.

This coalescing of moderate forces in the region has improved the conditions for progress. As a result, the pace of events has accelerated in recent months.

King Hussein has been working hard to organise the Arab side to negotiate a peaceful settlement with Israel on the basis of Resolution 242. He has been trying, through his Feb. 11 Framework Agreement with the PLO, to develop a Palestinian consensus supporting movement toward the negotiating table. Within the Palestinian community we have seen a more realistic attitude. President Mubarak has also played an active and constructive role in promoting negotiations throughout this period.

Meanwhile, Israel is withdrawing its forces from Lebanon in the next few weeks. This is a

positive step that we hope will lead to security and stability along the Israeli-Lebanese border. We also see a warming of relations between Egypt and Israel. Both sides, for instance, are actively trying to resolve bilateral disputes, including the long-standing and troublesome issue of Taba. Indeed, negotiations between the parties, with the United States present, resumed Wednesday in Cairo. The health of the Egyptian-Israeli relationship is vital to the overall peace process. When relations between Egypt and Israel are improving, it reminds both Arabs and Israelis of the efficacy of negotiations.

The challenge, now, is to translate the desire of Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and many Palestinians for movement toward peace into a concrete agreement for direct negotiations based on Resolution 242.

The United States has played an active part in that effort. The visits to the United States of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd in February, and of Egypt's President Mubarak in March, provided valuable opportunities for finding ways to encourage progress. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy made an exploratory trip to the region in April. As you know, Secretary Shultz is just back from the area.

Many difficult problems remain. One key issue is the composition of a joint Jordanian-

Palestinian delegation to enter direct negotiations with Israel. Participation by representatives of the Palestinian people was an explicit principle set down in the Camp David Accords, and the United States supports efforts to bring non-PLO Palestinians to the table. The issue, as Secretary Shultz defined it a few days ago, is finding those "who are truly recognised as able to represent Palestinians and who also have a background that will be acceptable in a negotiating process given all the history of absolute opposition to Israel."

Secretary Shultz found, in his discussions, that everyone is conscious of the difficulties. But he also found a positive atmosphere — a genuine sense of movement, a widely shared desire to see things move forward, and an increasing sense of the importance of finding a way to get negotiations going.

At the end of this month, King Hussein will be visiting the United States. He will see President Reagan on May 29. His visit will provide yet another opportunity to improve the prospects for negotiations. We need to build on each of these top-level discussions to move forward on the road to peace.

We have faith in the commitment and determination of our friends in the region to find a way toward peace. We will settle for nothing less — U.S. Information Agency.

Randa Habib's
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Stop the stunt-drivers

WORRIED PARENTS called and asked me to go and take a look at the situation in the Shmeisani streets near two girls' schools between 1.30 and 2.00 p.m. So, I did. And what I saw was far beyond my imagination. Teenagers driving cars on two wheels on curbs narrowly escaping horrible accidents.

Showing off in front of schoolgirls who are getting out of their classes, those young boys do not find a better way to attract the girls' attention and win their admiration but with these dangerous stunts. Some of them succeed in driving on two wheels, imitating those heroes of TV series. No need to describe the fear of neighbours whose nerves are wrecked, not to mention their anguish over these youngsters.

Although bumps were installed in the middle of streets in school areas to force drivers reduce their speed, it seems the step is not working.

Those youngsters, many of whom have "stolen" their families' cars I assume, seem inexhaustible. They are there, regularly showing their dexterity on the steering wheel ... thrilled with danger and the admiring looks of girls.

Where are the parents of those "champions"? What do they think of the attitude of their children? And what will they do when an accident happens? I wonder.

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Lewis fails to break world long jump record

LOS ANGELES (R) — Gusty winds spoiled Olympic superstar Carl Lewis' attempt at the world long-jump record but Czechoslovak wonder woman Jarmila Kratochvilova made her U.S. outdoor debut a successful one Sunday.

Olympic 800 metres champion Joaquim Cruz of Brazil ran a brilliant mile in another highlight of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) invitational athletics meetings.

Lewis, who won four gold medals at the Los Angeles Olympics, made the fourth longest jump in track and field history of 8.77 metres to win the event. But the effort was erased from the record books by a trailing wind well above the allowable two metres per second.

"I'm really to have jumped that far this early in the season," the 23-year-old American said. "I'll just use it as a learning experience and go from there."

Lewis had a slight hamstring pull on his fourth jump and said the winds bothered him, but added: "I definitely can jump farther than I did" and eclipse Bob Beamon's 1968 mark of 8.90 metres sometime this year.

The 34-year-old Kratochvilova, the world record holder at both 400 and 800 metres, easily swept those two events but attributed her relatively slow times to a lack of training.

"It's so cold in Czechoslovakia. I haven't had a chance to train properly. I'm using these races to

get ready for the European Cup in Moscow (in August) and the World Cup in Australia (in October)," she said through an interpreter.

She won the 400 in a meeting record of 49.89, nearly two seconds off her 1983 mark of 47.99. Diane Dixon of the U.S. was second in 50.88.

Kratochvilova took the 800 in two minutes, 07.2 seconds far short of her record of 1:53.28, also set in 1983, ahead of American Kim Gallagher in 2:01.43.

Cruz, the long striding Brazilian who blew away his competition in the Olympic 800 metres last summer, came from about eight metres back on the final straight to overtake American record holder Steve Scott at the wire.

The 22-year-old Cruz' time of three minutes, 53.19 seconds did not come close to Britain's Sebastian Coe's world mark of 3:47.33. He beat Scott by one-hundredth of a second and was named outstanding athlete of the meetings.

"I was surprised that Scott passed me in the last 250 (metres) but that was O.K. I saved enough to outkick him the last 50," Cruz said. "I didn't know I won till I passed the finish line."

In the women's 200 metres, triple Olympic gold medalist Valerie Brisco-Hooks of the United States ran a powerful race to lead across the finish just one-hundredth of a second ahead of Merlene Ottey-Page of Jamaica.

Prost wins Monaco race

MONTE CARLO (R) — Alain Prost of France Sunday won the Monaco Grand Prix for the second year in succession to renew his challenge for the world championship.

The McLaren driver avoided trouble which dogged leading rivals, including pre-race favourite Ayrton Senna of Brazil, to gain his second triumph of the season following victory in the opening race of the year in Rio de Janeiro.

Michele Alboreto drove his Ferrari into second place with an exciting and eventful performance, overhauling fellow-Italians Elio de Angelis and Andrea de Cesaris, who finished third and fourth respectively.

It was a more satisfying win for Prost than last year when the race was stopped before the halfway mark because of torrential rain.

But the little Frenchman profited from the ill fortune of Senna, the engine of his Lotus broke after he had led for 13 laps of a race he had started in pole position, and Alboreto.

Alboreto twice held the lead after Senna pulled out. First he relinquished it after spinning following a spectacular crash involving Brazil's Nelson Piquet and Italy's Riccardo Patrese. Then he punctured and had to stop to change the left rear wheel.

Alboreto, 43 seconds adrift of Prost after 34 laps, reduced the gap as he passed first the Ligier of De Cesaris and then the Lotus of De Angelis but was still 13 seconds adrift at the end of the 78-lap street race.

Moran waits as United celebrates

LONDON (R) — Two Irishmen in Manchester United's English Football Association (F.A.) Cup winning side, Norman Whiteside and Kevin Moran, looked back Sunday on the 104th final with widely differing emotions.

Moran, an uncompromising defender from Dublin, will need many years to recover from the agony of becoming Saturday the first player to be sent off in an F.A. Cup final.

But Whiteside, the tigerish midfielder from the backstreets of Belfast, will remember for the rest of his life the ecstasy of his superb extra time goal which clinched United's 1-0 defeat of Everton.

Moran, even now, faces a painful wait until Wednesday before F.A. officials decide whether he can have his winner's medal.

When he went up to collect it with the rest of his team from Britain's Duke of Kent he was waved past by officials without even time for a handshake from the Duke.

F.A. rules say a player sent off in a final may receive a medal only at the F.A. council's discretion.

But controversy was still raging Sunday not only about the medal but over whether Moran, who was helped from the pitch in tears by manager Ron Atkinson, should have been sent off at all.

Ironically Moran's departure was the turning point in a previously lacklustre game. United stormed into winning Everton, who were feeling the effects of playing a second cup final in four days, following their European Cup Winners' Cup success against Rapid Vienna.

Whiteside's goal, a superbly curled effort from 18 metres, proved enough to ruin Everton's dream of a unique treble of F.A. Cup, League Championship and Cup Winners' Cup.

It 1977 United also deprived Liverpool of a league and F.A. Cup double with a 2-1 victory at Wembley.

Williams stands little chance against Holmes in Monday fight

RENO, Nevada (R) — Carl Williams is given little chance by local bookmakers in his attempt to wrest the International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title from Larry Holmes Monday.

But the challenger does have statistics on his side. Williams is 10 years younger than Holmes, heavier and taller and has a 215 centimetre reach, 10.16 centimetres longer than Holmes and longer than any heavyweight champion since Italian Primo Carnera who held the world title more than 50 years ago.

But that has failed to impress the 35-year-old Holmes or the bookmakers who make Williams the 7-1 against underdog.

Holmes, with a 47-0 professional record, said: "Williams has a fair punch, he's strong and he's as big as me. But the one thing he's going to learn, just like all the others, is that he's never been in the ring with anybody like Larry. Holmes before."

Williams, who goes into the

fight with a 16-0 record in four years, said: "He'll see a lot of stuff from me that he does himself. Only I'll be doing it 10 years younger."

Williams added: "Larry's never seen anyone with a left jab as quick and accurate as mine. And you have to finally understand, Larry Holmes isn't the fighter he used to be."

"If Holmes beats Williams, the champion is expected to try to equal Rocky Marciano's record of 49 professional victories this year."

On his showing against David Bey in March when he produced punishing left jabs with as much power and authority as he has in years, landing combination rights with astonishing accuracy, Holmes looks certain to give Williams an extremely tough time.

But if Holmes repeats his lacklustre performance over James "boncenusher" Smith in November, Williams just might pull off an upset.

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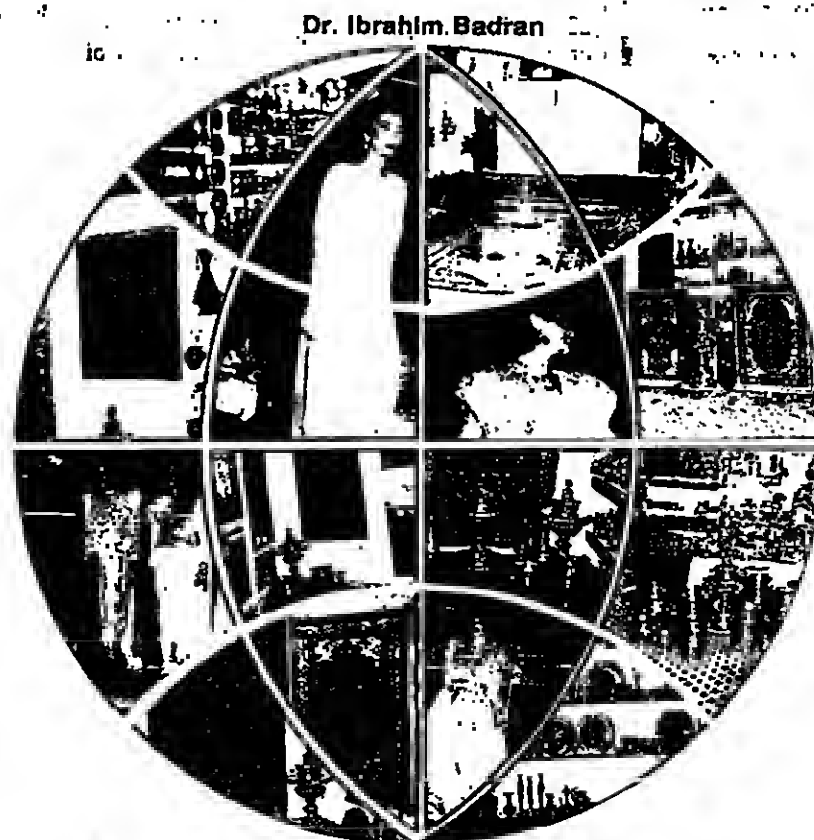
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Pressure on OPEC to reduce output is growing, analysts say

NEW YORK (R) — Pressure on OPEC members to cut their output further or risk lower oil prices is growing more intense, according to oil analysts here and in Europe.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) voluntary quota was set at 16 million barrels per day (b/d) last October, and in January the price for Saudi Arabia's key light crude went down by \$1 a barrel to \$28. But the lower OPEC production has been countered by supplies from other sources, and the European free or "spot" market last week Saudi Arab light traded at more than \$1 a barrel below its official price in a market described as "relatively weak."

In their effort to hold OPEC's fragile unity together, the Middle East producers are bearing the brunt of cuts in world crude oil production, according to estimates released by the respected trade journal Petroleum Information (P.I.).

Middle East crude output fell 17.3 per cent to an average 9.8 million b/d during the first three months of 1985 compared with the same period of 1984, P.I. said.

Worldwide output during the same period fell only 2.1 per cent to 53.3 million b/d, according to P.I., but oil production in the Western hemisphere was up 3.7 per cent and Western Europe's jumped by 5.6 per cent.

By contrast Saudi Arabia,

which in 1979 was pumping out nine million b/d, is now down to around 2.5 million b/d and cannot go much lower for both financial and technical reasons.

The low Saudi production is seen as the main reason why OPEC has kept close to 16 million b/d in recent months, but analysts say even that figure was too high. "There is growing evidence that OPEC's current ceiling is not low enough in the face of worldwide weak demand, suggesting difficulties for OPEC in allocating further production cuts among members," said Mr. William Randall, oil analyst with First Boston Corp.

Even if market conditions suggest OPEC should lower its total output again, the cartel is unwilling to lose more market share, and several of its 13 members need all the oil revenue they can get and would reject lower quotas.

An oil minister in Ecuador, a small OPEC producer which only sells far more than its 183,000 b/d quota, said last week that cutbacks would be "economic suicide."

In addition Iraq, which may already be exceeding its quota, will soon be able to move up to one million b/d via a new pipeline through Saudi Arabia.

If all OPEC members broke ranks, its structure could collapse in a free-for-all which according to the Cambridge (Massachusetts) Energy Research Associates

(CERA) would result in a world oil price of around \$18 a barrel.

For prices to stay even in the \$22 to \$26 range, said a CERA analyst this month, will require not only OPEC production controls, monitoring and political will, but also "deliberate restraint on non-OPEC production."

OPEC has accused non-OPEC North Sea producers such as Britain and Norway of recklessly stepping up their output to scoop up demand in excess of OPEC's self-imposed ceiling.

Despite OPEC's elaborate new monitoring scheme intended to ensure compliance with agreed ceilings, members like Nigeria and Iran have negotiated oil-for-imports barter arrangements that they fall outside the scope of their quotas.

Nigeria is producing up to 500,000 b/d above its 1.3 million b/d limit while Iran, its sales hit by the Gulf war, is offering large discounts to move into the U.S. and West European markets.

On the spot market last week Iranian crude was on offer for \$25.25 compared with its official \$28.05 price.

"If Iran intends to move into the U.S. and Europe it is going to have to go head-to-head with some very low-price competitors," said the general manager of a major oil company.

"It has become apparent that neither the North Sea nor the African producers would be willing to give way to them and this is igniting fears that a price-cutting competition will get under way," he added.

The prospect of even more plentiful supplies combined with a weak boost in demand — estimated at less than two million b/d between now and 1987 — has increased the chance of a major price cut, said oil traders, and refineries have decided to sit back and wait.

The International Monetary Fund said in its annual report that the oil market was expected to remain weak this year and into 1986 "with the possibility of recurrent pressures on spot market prices."

Omani oil output hits new record

MUSCAT (R) — Omani crude oil production hit a record monthly average of 481,000 barrels a day (b/d) in March, the Central Bank of Oman's quarterly bulletin said.

Official sources said earlier last week that output in the first quarter of this year was also a record, at an average of 468,000 b/d, but they gave no breakdown by months.

The central bank bulletin shows that output was 452,000 b/d in January, 468,000 b/d in February and 481,000 b/d in March.

Monthly export averages were 397,000 b/d in January, 425,000 b/d in February and 442,000 b/d in March, it added. Oman refines about 44,000 b/d locally and exports refinery residue.

Sugar exporters face bleak prospects

LONDON (R) — Sugar exporting countries, hit by oversupplied world markets and record low prices, meet here this week to assess their problems but face bleak prospects for any turnaround in the foreseeable future, industry analysts say.

A concerted attempt to reduce production offers the only real hope of reversing the downturn, but analysts say an International Sugar Organisation (ISO) council meeting of producers and consumers on Thursday is unlikely to make progress on restraining output.

After the failure last year of a United Nations conference in Geneva to negotiate an international sugar agreement to set quotas, major exporters like Australia, Brazil, Cuba and the European Community (EC) are in no mood to cooperate.

"The experience of the U.N.

sugar conference showed that the first priority of many countries is the maintenance of exports at not less than previously established high levels," London sugar broker C. Czarnikow Ltd. said in its latest monthly review.

As a result, sugar prices continue to drop and the world surplus grows larger every year.

Last week the ISO daily price, calculated from prices quoted in London and New York, dropped to 2.65 cents per pound, its lowest nominal level since late 1969.

After allowing for inflation, prices are arguably at their lowest level ever, analysts said.

World sugar production has outpaced consumption every year since 1980, and initial forecasts of the current crop year, which ends on Aug. 30, give no reason to think the oversupply, now estimated as high as 17 million tonnes, will be reduced.

"The situation is certainly terrible and quite honestly I do not see prospects in the near future for prices to improve to levels approaching even the lowest costs of production," ISO Executive Director William Miller told Reuters.

Sugar analysts said that world prices would have to increase by four times to merely reach the production costs of the most efficient producers.

"The problem is, every country provides price support so no sugar industry adjusts to lower world prices until government subsidies are removed," one analyst said.

Future world consumption trends provide no encouragement either.

Alternative sweeteners, especially those derived from maize, are well established in developed economies and now hold 50 per cent of the U.S. sweetener market.

Another obstacle to consumption growth is the fact that developing countries, more sensitive to any price rises, have taken over as the world's main outlet, according to analysts.

Faced with the chronic oversupply and rock-bottom prices for the foreseeable future, producers might be expected to start adjusting their crop targets, they added.

Nevertheless, most analysts see no possibility of world production falling below consumption until the season after next, though there are signs that Brazil, Argentina

and the Philippines have started to plan reduced output.

Part of the problem in cutting output is that many producing countries enjoy varying degrees of protection from low prices through subsidised supply arrangements.

African, Caribbean and Pacific countries linked with the EC under the Lome convention, for example, receive a guaranteed price of around 17 cents per pound for 1.3 million tonnes imported annually by the Community.

Exporters with a U.S. quota receive more than 20 cents a pound.

Countries hardest hit by low world prices are those which rely on sugar exports for a substantial part of their foreign exchange earnings but benefit least from artificial prices.

Jordanian fertilizer firm loses \$32m

AMMAN (R) — Jordan Fertilizer Industry Company said Sunday it made a net loss of 12.87 million dinars (\$32 million) in the first full year of commercial operation of its \$420 million fertilizer complex last year.

The company's annual report blamed the loss on high cost of imported raw materials and falling world prices of fertilizers. The complex, which operated at 77 per cent of designed output capacity, went into operation in September 1983.

Strike clips wings of United Airlines

CHICAGO (R) — United Airlines struggled to keep a fraction of its normal service going Sunday as a pilots strike against the biggest U.S. air carrier entered its third day.

But the airline said it was gradually increasing the number of flights and would try to build back to a near normal schedule in coming weeks if the strike continued.

United said Saturday it operated only 14 per cent of its normal flight load. The figure was up from 11 per cent on Friday, the first day of the walkout.

The airline usually carries 120,000 passengers each day on 1,580 flights.

A spokesman for the airline said 220 flights were scheduled Saturday, compared to 165 on Friday.

The flights operating were mainly between a handful of major U.S. cities, although the airline said at least some service was being maintained at 51 of the 189 airports on its usual schedule.

Flights were continuing to and from Hong Kong and Toronto but the rest of United's other international service — to other Canadian cities, Mexico and the Bahamas — was suspended.

The strike continued to create problems for air travellers who faced delays while seeking alternative transportation or while waiting for the few United flights that operated.

The airline said "several hundred" of its 5,000 pilots had crossed picket lines and gone back to work.

The Air Line Pilots Association, the pilots union, discounted that figure and said it felt the strike was a success so far.

No negotiations were scheduled but both sides expressed a willingness to go back to bargaining.

United's pilots currently earn an average salary of \$36,000 per year. The issue which caused the strike was a demand by United that newly hired pilots be paid less than present staff.

The union does not object to a two-tier pay scale but the union wants new pilots to reach equal pay in eight years while the airline is insisting on 16 to 20.

Nyerere relaxes restrictions

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania (AP) — President Julius Nyerere's Socialist government has reversed a 14-year-old policy banning ownership of rental property. Mr. Nyerere made the surprise announcement Saturday, telling a radio audience, "today, in 1985, we have no reason to continue this law."

The president said that the move did not mean Tanzania was abandoning socialism, but that the government could not afford to build enough houses to relieve a severe shortage.

Settlement said to be near to Swedish labour dispute

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish unions and state employers said Sunday a compromise solution to a 17-day civil servants' strike which has disrupted the country and crippled foreign trade could be reached soon.

Mr. Rune Larson, deputy chairman of the 265,000-strong civil servants' union TCO-S, said a two per cent pay rise offered by mediators Sunday was acceptable although some details had to be solved before a settlement could be concluded.

"But I'm optimistic that we will reach an agreement to end the conflict quite soon," Mr. Larson said in a radio interview.

The conflict involves 70,000 public sector employees who are either locked out of their jobs or on selective strikes, called by the union to back its demands for a 3.1 per cent pay rise.

The dispute has shut airports

and virtually halted foreign trade.

The two per cent pay rise offer has won tacit approval from the Civil Service Employers' Board, an agency handling collective bargaining for civil servants.

Mediator Sven-Hugo Ryman told reporters he expected to offer a formula — barring last-minute problems — later Sunday which could be acceptable to both sides.

Mr. Ryman said the two sides had made unexpected progress during all-night talks which were adjourned for a few "ours" break Sunday.

Mr. Larson, leader of the strikers, said he hoped air traffic could be restored to normal on Monday or Tuesday.

The government appears to have backed down from its stand that a pay rise for civil servants would ruin its anti-inflation strategy.

Union officials said they too had

yielded ground in accepting the two per cent rise and by scaling down the strike in schools and among customs officers, whose walkout has been a major factor affecting the movement of imports and exports.

The dispute has inflicted substantial losses on airlines, hit by the walkout by air traffic controllers, and industry.

Firms were forced in lay off workers because striking customs officers refused to process essential imported supplies.

It has also greatly embarrassed that ruling Social Democrats ahead of crucial elections in September. The party maintains close links with the country's trade union movement.

The strike weakened Sweden's currency and forced the government last week to raise the discount rate and introduce measures to curb credit.

Swiss court finds prominent banker guilty in major scandal

GENEVA (R) — One of Switzerland's longest and most notorious banking scandals ended this weekend with a once-prominent private banker, Mr. Robert Leclerc, found guilty of diverting millions of dollars from his clients' accounts.

The jury at the Geneva criminal court read out the verdict late Saturday, finding the 67-year-old banker guilty of 60 charges of fraud and breach of confidence.

Mr. Leclerc will be sentenced Monday and public prosecutor Raymond Focx was expected to demand a maximum 15-year sentence.

The five-week public trial closed the case of Leclerc and Company, a private Geneva-based bank which the Federal Banking Commission shut down in 1977.

The commission said an investigation showed a consolidated

balance sheet deficit of 394 million Swiss francs (then worth \$220 million).

The elite and secretive world of Swiss banking was stunned when the director of the bank, Mr. Charles Bouchard, committed suicide shortly after the closure and another former Leclerc partner was found drowned in Lake Geneva.

In 1978, Mr. Leclerc was arrested and spent 15 months in jail despite repeated pleas for release on the grounds of ill health. He was finally freed on a 500,000-franc (\$200,000) bond.

In an impassioned final plea in the jury of 10 women and two men, Mr. Leclerc admitted mistakes and errors but said he had never dipped into any of his clients' accounts. He asked forgiveness from his former clients, many of whom were close friends.

His lawyers argued that he was

innocent of any criminal wrongdoing, and said the banking commission caused the clients' financial losses by unnecessarily closing the bank.

The jury deliberated for 10 hours before finding Mr. Leclerc guilty of all but 18 charges, handing two of the charges to "aggravated" breach of confidence.

The public prosecutor was joined by five lawyers pressing a civil action against the banker on behalf of some of the 4,182 clients who lost money, accusing him of using fraud and deception to conceal 25 million Swiss francs (\$9.7 million) in secret accounts between 1970 and 1977.

The case never ceased to fascinate the public as the prosecutor pried into the secretive world of banking. Hundreds of people queued for places in the courtroom in the final days.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MAY 20, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An amazing day. Decide upon a course of action that will be pleasing to you in the future, but expect some drastic changes to take place that could actually be advantageous.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can get ahead much faster with the aid of good friends so be sure to contact the right ones.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Your reputation can soar by handling outside activities efficiently today. Gain the support of a bigwig.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are highly inspired to gain your ambitions and should jot down your ideas so that you will not forget them later.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You are eager to get business affairs arranged which can bring you greater success, so get busy at it.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be with dynamic partners today and listen to their ideas for your own advancement and cooperate with them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Do your work with greater efficiency and make a fine impression on higher-ups. Be happy at home tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have wanted to take in new kinds of pleasure for some time, so start making arrangements for such now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Something different that you do at home can please kin very much. A good day to extend invitations to those you are fond of.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Contact associates and make a plan of action that is most worthwhile. Take it easy tonight and rest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try to be more modern now and you can become far more successful. Avoid gossiping who only waste your time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are a New Era person and this is the day to show your finest talents and make big headway.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have many fine ideas which you can easily express today and get good results. Evening is best spent at home.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can comprehend modern things like computers and the like, and should therefore have a fine education in the most up-to-date schools. Make sure that the diet is good and enough exercise is given. A part-time job early in life will bring many benefits.

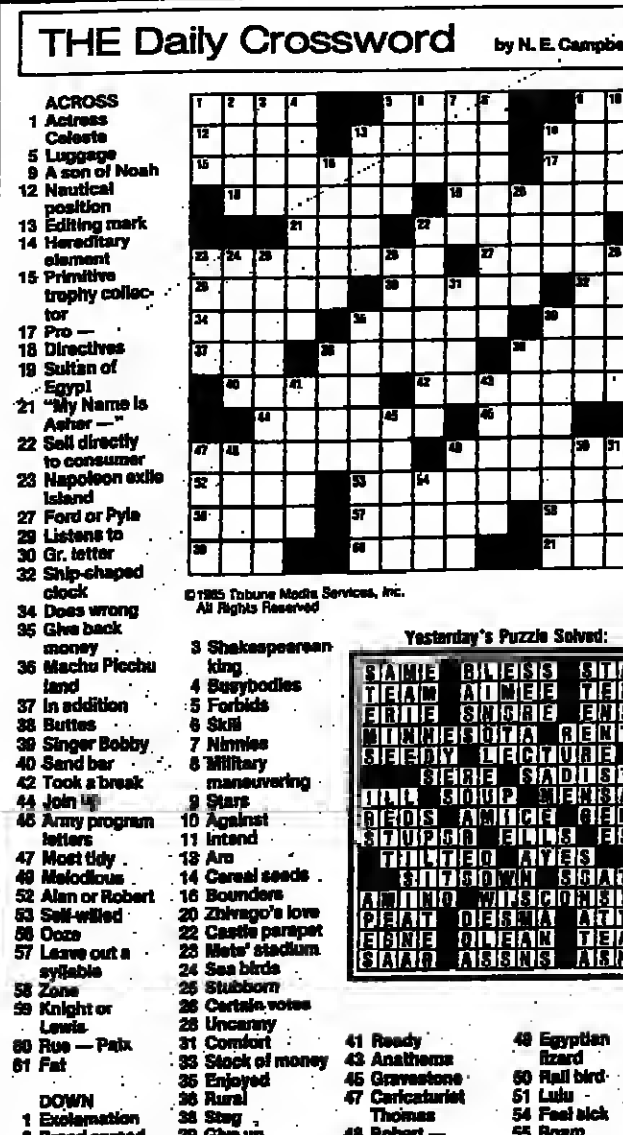
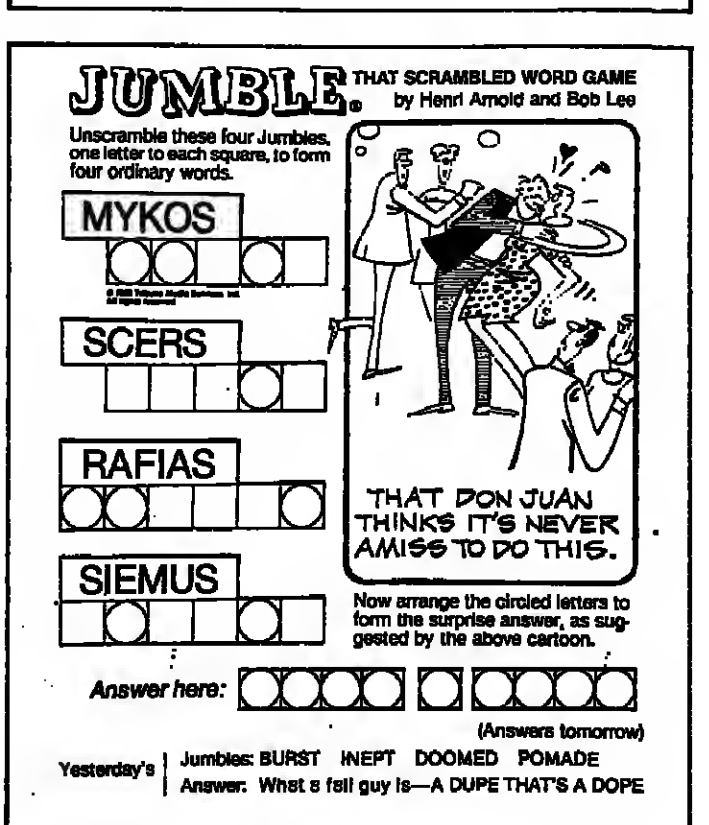
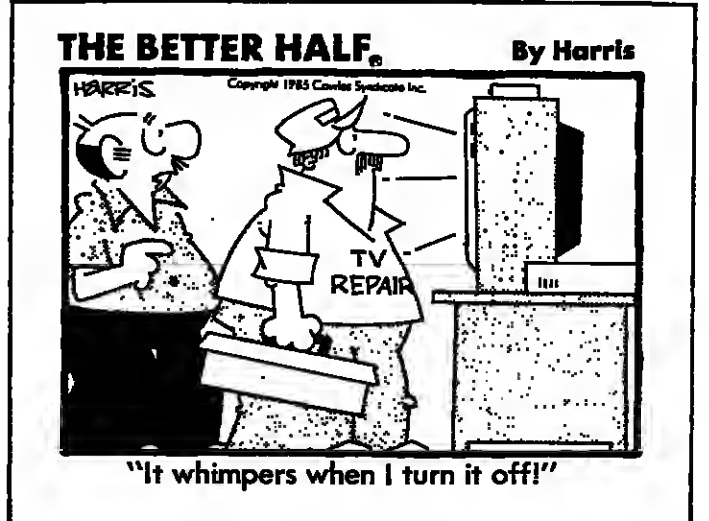
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Gorbachev attacks U.S. policy in Indian Ocean

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has accused the United States of a military buildup in the Indian Ocean and of scuttling attempts to make the region a zone of peace.

His statements were made in advance of a visit by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to Moscow this week.

Mr. Gorbachev said Mr. Gandhi's five-day visit, beginning on Tuesday, would give new content to traditional ties between the two countries.

The Soviet Union is India's main weapons supplier and the two countries signed a treaty of friendship in 1971.

Mr. Gorbachev said in written replies to questions from a correspondent from the Press Trust of India (PTI) and published by TASS News Agency Saturday that Indian-Soviet ties covered many fields.

He said, "the high level, dynamism and comprehensive nature of our relations is a source of great satisfaction to us."

Mr. Gorbachev, 54, accused Washington of wrecking efforts to convene a conference on the Indian Ocean while at the same time

constantly building up its military presence there.

The Soviet position was that navies, using the ocean should refrain from holding large-scale exercises, he said.

The Kremlin chief said the U.S. had unilaterally broken off talks between Moscow and Washington on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean.

He repeated previously-announced Soviet arms control proposals and said Moscow had offered to halt the development of space weapons to coincide with the superpower talks on arms control at Geneva.

The Soviet Union had also undertaken a unilateral moratorium on medium-range nuclear missiles, adding that Moscow was thus entitled to hope for a more serious and thoughtful assessment from the Western NATO alliance.

He said the Soviet Union expected restraint from the U.S. over its deployments for NATO of

medium range missiles in Western Europe.

Mr. Gorbachev also attacked the U.S. for failing to respond to Moscow's proposal for a ban on nuclear tests this year and for refusing to ratify an underground test ban treaty.

He said the superpowers bore the main responsibility for world peace, but that the role of all countries was important, and the Soviet Union particularly appreciated India's contribution to this collective effort to preserve peace.

Meanwhile Indian newspapers Sunday forecast a stormy parliamentary debate over a bill giving Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government almost unlimited powers to fight Sikh extremists.

The anti-terrorist bill goes before the Lower House of Parliament Monday and because of Mr. Gandhi's overwhelming majority is certain to pass.

But the Calcutta Telegraph newspaper said a stormy debate was expected because some opposition members regarded the bill, which includes the death sentence for killer terrorist acts, as too sweeping.



FAISAL IN TEHRAN: Visiting Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal (right) holds talks with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi (left) in Tehran Sunday (AP wirephoto)

Probe launched at Japan death mine

YUBARI, Japan (R) — Police and mining experts launched an investigation Sunday into why highly-advanced safety equipment failed to save the 62 men killed in a weekend coal mine disaster in northern Japan.

The probe centred on whether sophisticated gas sensors had adequately signalled a leakage of methane gas before a violent explosion ripped through the Minami Oyubari Mine on Friday afternoon.

The smell of gas was still strong as a team of some 50 investigators moved into the pit at midday Sunday, police said.

The disaster, latest in a string of mining accidents in Japan since the World War II, roused editorial demands for a lowering of pro-

duction targets which might jeopardise safety standards.

The Minami Oyubari Mine, opened in 1970 on Hokkaido Island, was the most modern in Japan. The advanced safety system was installed there after a previous gas explosion killed 17 men in 1979.

The fifth largest coal mine in Japan, it accounts for nearly seven per cent of the nation's output.

Police and officials of the Hokkaido Mine Safety Board which is run by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) are conducting the investigation. The minister himself, Keijiro Murata, was put in charge of the operation.

Police said in preliminary inquiries Saturday officials removed

documents from the offices of the mine, which is run by the Mitsubishi Coal Mining Company. Safety officials said Saturday they would question the management on whether the order to evacuate the pit was given quickly enough after the sensors flashed gas warnings.

The newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun speculated that gas may have rushed in too quickly for sensors to give adequate warning.

The Yubari region is noted by geologists for its many pockets of compressed methane gas which can burst into coal-tunnels.

"The search for quality coal means digging mines ever deeper which causes safety problems," Yomiuri said.

Eanes to hold informal talks on Macao

LISBON (R) — The future of Macao, a tiny Portuguese-administered territory on the South China coast, is expected to be discussed informally during a five-day state visit to China this week by Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes, diplomatic sources said Sunday.

Portuguese officials say Macao is not on the agenda of bilateral discussions, though the Chinese could raise the issue if they wished.

The Eanes visit, six months after one by Chinese President Li Xiangni to Portugal, is seen as confirming the steady strengthening of links between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic relations in February 1979.

But the presence of Foreign Minister Jaime Gama in the presidential delegation and the recent

British-Chinese agreement on the future of Hong Kong have reinforced speculation that the Macao issue can scarcely be avoided.

Mr. Eanes, in the last year of a 10-year term of office, has special constitutional responsibilities for Macao, where the governor since 1981 has been his nominee and former revolutionary colleague, Admiral Vasco Almeida e Costa.

Adm. Almeida e Costa recently dismissed press speculation that he was in the running to succeed Mr. Eanes.

Mr. Eanes leaves for Peking Monday for his visit beginning on Wednesday.

He is due to stop over in Macao the following Monday on his way to Belgrade for an official visit to Yugoslavia from May 29-31.

Adm. Almeida e Costa, a recent

visitor to both Peking and Lisbon, was quoted by the Portuguese News Agency ANOP as saying the Eanes trip was not connected with the future of the 16 square kilometre territory administered by Portugal for more than 400 years.

"However, nothing prevents the issue being raised informally," he said.

In Lisbon last November Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian indicated that the problem of Macao could be solved in the same way as that of neighbouring Hong Kong.

Britain and China have agreed to the handing over of the British colony to Chinese administration in 1997.

China's position is that the issue will be raised amicably when the time is ripe, but has so far not specified when this would be.

20 Filipinos reportedly died at U.S. bases

MANILA (R) — Twenty Filipino dockworkers at the U.S. Navy base in Subic Bay have died of asbestos poisoning and eight security guards at a communications centre have died of cancer caused by radiation, a Manila newspaper reported Sunday.

The newspaper bulletin Sunday quoted an official of a union representing Filipino workers as saying that dockers at Subic Bay had been exposed to asbestos poisoning for about 15 years after being hired to clean military vessels during the Vietnam War.

The military government of President Ferdinand Marcos said it had the worst in the state's history have already scorched more than 100,000 acres (40,500 hectares).

Officials called the fires, which have killed three people, the worst ever in Florida and said the damage to property and natural habitats could top \$50 million.

Late afternoon winds of up to 40 kilometres per hour whipped across Northern Florida and southern Georgia Saturday, sending fires racing across thousands more acres (hectares) of bone-dry bush and timberland.

"And if the winds don't die down soon, things are going to get worse," said a spokesman for the Florida Office of Emergency Management.

The governor's emergency order places the state funds, manpower, and fire-fighting equipment at the disposal of local fire officials.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan has devised what it hopes is a way to replace politically appointed U.S. ambassadors without making it appear they are being fired.

U.S. officials said the White House decided several months ago without announcement to limit envoys who are political appointees to 2½-year tours of duty.

The new approach enables the administration to "depersonalise" the replacement of politically appointed ambassadors by informing them they are subject to the same time limitations, the officials said.

It also permits the White House to trim a long list of Republican Party contributors and other well-connected conservatives who have expressed interest in becoming

ambassadors.

The White House had no public comment on the new policy.

The U.S. officials, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said about 30 envoys have been notified thus far they are being replaced under the so-called "2½-year rule."

They said that one exception to the rule is former Senate majority leader Mike Mansfield, who has served as ambassador to Japan for more than eight years.

What triggered the new rule was the problem the administration had in finding a graceful way to replace political appointees without offending them. The issue came to a head last winter at the conclusion of President Reagan's first term when the administration decided a shakeup of its ambassadorial corps was overdue.

According to the officials, car-

eer diplomats who are ambassadors generally will have three-year assignments. Previously, there had been no fixed term for career ambassadors.

The officials said a possible exception to this rule is Arthur Hartman, a veteran foreign service officer who soon will complete four years as U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Among the political appointees who have been replaced or are expected to return home soon are Ambassadors Arthur Burns in West Germany, James Theberge in Chile, Arthur Davis in Paraguay, Lev Dobrianski in the Bahamas, Thomas Aranda in Uruguay, William Hewi in Jamaica, Robert Nesen in Australia, David Funderburk in Romania, Curt Winsor in Costa Rica and John Gavin in Mexico.

If the rule is applied strictly, a

number of other envoys are due for replacement because they already have exceeded the 2½-year limit. In this category are Ambassadors Evan Galbraith in France, Richard Walker in South Korea, Maxwell Rabb in Italy and Herman Nickel in South Africa.

Some non-career diplomats who have good political connections or who are regarded as having performed well have been reassigned to new ambassadorial posts.

Two such examples are Lewis Tamba, an Arizona state university professor who was appointed ambassador to Costa Rica this past week after two years in Colombia, and J. William Middelhoff, who is leaving his post as ambassador to the Organisation of American States to become ambassador to the European Community.

Some people have also died in fighting between rival anti-apartheid political groups.

Police kill another black in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Police firing birdshot, rubber bullets and teargas killed a black man during renewed arson and rioting in South Africa's black townships, police said Sunday.

The man died in Duduza, east of Johannesburg, Saturday following a funeral for a recent victim of the unrest which has claimed about 200 lives this year.

Police said seven houses, including the homes of four black policemen, were set alight in Duduza overnight. Police vehicles were stoned and petrol-bombed and one policeman was injured.

In nearby Kaitshong a delivery vehicle was stoned and set ablaze, and a house in the eastern Cape province was petrol-bombed.

Most of the victims of the rioting have been killed by police. Those victims killed by the rioters were black local officials regarded as collaborators with the white government.

Some people have also died in fighting between rival anti-apartheid political groups.

Pope restates strict views on family issues

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Pope John Paul II, speaking at an outdoor mass, restated on Sunday his church's ban on divorce, extra-marital sex and artificial birth control, saying church teaching will not change to suit "contemporary states of mind."

Speaking in Dutch, French and German, Belgium's three languages, he also counselled this linguistically-divided nation of 10 million to honour dialogue, saying "there are more things that unite you than that divide you."

He told 100,000 people assembled in front of the huge Koekelberg Basilica here, that he cannot yield on family issues even though such phenomena as divorce, extra-marital sex and birth control "might be more agreeable to contemporary states of mind."

He added Christians must consider "God's intention for marriage and family" and "live in accordance with what God expects of them in the field of mutual personal relations and the transmission of life, of matrimonial chastity."

The unchanging nature of the church's teaching has been one of the main themes of the Pope's trip to the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium that began May 11 in Holland.

For example, in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, last Tuesday, the Pope addressed Dutch youngsters about the church's unwavering stand on family issues.

"The words of the Apostles are clear and strict. They are words inspired by God. They remain the standard for the church for all time," he told the Dutch youngsters.

The Brussels mass was held in mild but misty weather and was attended by King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola and Prime Minister Wilfried Martens.

"Honour the mutual respect and dialogue between the different Belgian communities," said the Pope, a reference to the linguistic issues and disputes that surface almost daily in Belgian politics.

"There are more things that unite you than that divide you," the Pontiff added. "Foster your model of co-existence, it can be an example to the rest of the world."

There are six million Dutch and four million French speakers in Belgium as well as 65,000 German speakers.

Princess fined for beating maids

LONDON (AP) — A Kuwaiti Princess who admitted beating two maids with metal wires and a riding crop was given a six-month suspended sentence, fined £500 (\$630) and ordered to pay the women a total of £2,750 (\$3,436).

Judge John Hayman told Princess Simiya Al Sabah, 30, before sentencing her on Friday that she had inflicted "barbaric" beatings on the two maids, Samsul Arifa, 26, of Sri Lanka and Lexmi Swami, 45, from India. In February, her sister, Princess Faria Al Sabah, received a similar sentence for the same offenses. The Princesses are half-sisters of the Emir of Kuwait.

Prosecutor Timothy Longdale told the court the two maids were illiterate and totally dependent on the Princesses, who brought them to London where they regularly spent the summer. Defence attorney Clive Nicholls said Princess Simiya had been depressed by a physical and psychological illness.

Evidence of ancient dentistry found

TEL AVIV (R) — Archaeologists have dug up evidence of ancient dentistry — root canal work on a tooth of a skeleton more than 2,000 years old. The skeleton, recently found in southern Negev Desert, is that of a Nabatean man who lived in the 3rd or 2nd Century B.C. and died at the age of 40.

The Education Ministry announced. It said archaeologists were intrigued by the green colour of one of the skeleton's teeth. An X-ray revealed a bronze pin, about 25 millimetre long, had been inserted into the tooth cavity. The ministry said it was the first case of ancient root canal work discovered in Israel, though archaeological excavations in Egypt had turned up evidence of dental treatment dating back to the Third Millennium B.C.

Georgia's Communists tested, many sacked

MOSCOW (R) — Many Communists in the southern Soviet Republic of Georgia have been sacked from their jobs after undergoing tests to examine their performance at work and in the party. Pravda said Sunday. The Communist Party daily also disclosed a series of corruption scandals involving the wine, fruit and light industries in the republic, known for its mild climate and its people's free-wheeling interpretation of Socialist economics. In a report on a top-level meeting in Georgia, Pravda said local officials had been urged to ensure the "cleanliness" of the party ranks by looking at all Communists' records. "More than 28,000 Communists have already been through this sort of examination," Pravda said.

Scientologists lose \$39m suit

PORTLAND, Oregon (R) — Church of Scientology officials have said they would stage a huge protest on Monday against a jury verdict that awarded \$39 million in punitive damages to a Portland woman who said she was victimised by the church. A county circuit court jury has awarded the money to Julie Christofferson Titchbourne 27, after finding she was a victim of "wanton misconduct" by the church and its founder, L. Ron Hubbard. The jury agreed with the woman's claim that the Scientology cult made fraudulent representations to her. Among other things, she said the church claimed it could improve her poor eyesight and make her more intelligent. Titchbourne also alleged that the church misrepresented Hubbard's background.

Charles' friends cause worry to palace

LONDON (AP) — An expert on fleas, a mystic and an organic farmer are among seven unusual people who are close to Prince Charles and a worry to Buckingham Palace, a newspaper said Sunday. Traditionalists at the palace are uneasy over the Prince's choice "from far outside the old golden circle," the Mail on Sunday reported. The weekly pulled together an article on the two women and five men who have been identified in recent months advising the heir to the throne. Prince Charles has "increasingly become his own man, surrounded by people whom he regards as important to him and the kind of society we are," the newspaper said.

U.S. to stop interviewing Kampuchean for resettlement

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — The United States will stop interviewing Kampuchean refugees in Thailand for resettlement within the next few weeks, effectively ending the flow of Kampuchean refugees to the United States. Western sources reported Sunday.

A Western aid agency official said Washington will finish interviewing those eligible for resettlement at the Khao-I-Dang Kampuchean refugee holding centre, possibly by the end of this month. That would halt the U.S. refugee programme for Kampuchean since Washington has no plans now to consider resettling any of the 230,000 Kampuchean pushed into Thailand.

The English-language daily the Bangkok Post quoted Prasong

Soonrit, head of the National Security Council, Sunday as saying he did not believe Washington would soon terminate the programme. The United States and other countries have a commitment with Thailand to resettle the refugees, Mr. Prasong was reportedly said.

The United States will continue to interview and resettle Laotian and Vietnamese refugees in Thailand.

Over the past decade waves of Kampuchean have fled the murderous Pol Pot regime, starvation, disease, the Vietnamese invasion and the continuing war. Since 1975, the United States has accepted 124,135 of the 190,151 Kampuchean resettled by Western countries.

Pakistani university closed after student clashes

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — The University of Peshawar has been closed indefinitely after clashes between liberal students demanding the lifting of martial law and Islamic fundamentalists who oppose them, according to news reports Sunday.

Pakistan newspapers reported that authorities had closed the university on Saturday after a series of clashes between leftist and rightist students over martial law. Authorities did not say how long the school would be closed, but newspapers suggested it would not reopen again before the start of the summer vacation in June.

Liberal students demanding the lifting of martial law held several demonstrations that led to clashes with Islamic fundamentalist students who support the military government, the papers said. The reports did not say if anybody had been hurt in the clashes.

Members of the Peoples Students Federation, who oppose martial law, have also been staging hunger strikes to back demands for the restoration of democratic rights.

The military government of President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq has said it will turn over power sometime this year to a new civilian government that was formed after parliamentary elections in March. Gen. Zia is to remain as president.

Peshawar is about 144 kilometres from Islamabad.

Meanwhile seven Afghan government agents have been sentenced to death by a resistance court for working with Soviet forces in Afghanistan, an Afghan guerrilla group said Sunday. Hezbi-I-Islami, one of the main Islamic Afghan guerrilla groups, said a peoples court in Uruzgan province in the centre of the country had recently sentenced the seven agents to death.

The seven agents were operatives of the Communist government's secret police and intelligence organisation known as the Khad, the group said. The agents were captured during a recent guerrilla operation near the town of Tarin Kot, the group said.

The seven agents were sentenced to death for cooperating with Soviet troops and for betraying the Afghan people and the resistance, Hezbi-I-Islami said.

The statement did not say what form of execution would have been imposed by the court, but such prisoners are usually shot.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
+83 ♠ 8 ♠ QK32 ♠ AQ10875
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass
7

What action do you take?
A. — Partner has constructed an auction to show that he is worried about the possibility of two fast heart losers. Since you can put his mind to rest on that score, you must bid slam. There is little to choose between six clubs and six diamonds, but since partner might have a doubleton king of clubs and so need a ruff to set up the suit, it seems wisest to choose six diamonds.

Q.2 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
+8 ♠ Q10762 ♠ 8543 ♠ 62
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 NT 2 ♠ Pass Pass
3 NT 2 ♠ Pass Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass
7

What action do you take?
A. — Partner is sitting under the bidder, so his double is more for takeout than for penalties. Naturally, with a suitable hand South can pass, but certainly not with this particular holding. Bid three hearts.

Q.3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
+J54 ♠ AQ1062 ♠ AKQ ♠ 63
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
7

What do you bid now?
A. — With two suits wide open, you were correct not to open the bidding with one no trump, despite your point count. Now you have a ruff problem. We suggest a "clever" bid of two diamonds. When you support spades at your next turn, partner should get an accurate picture of your hand — extra values, but only three-card support.

A jump to three spades grossly overstates your trump support, while two spades is an underbid.
Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
+AJ1063 ♠ 5 ♠ AJ82 ♠ AQ4
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♠
7

What action do you take?
A. — When vulnerable you strive to complete the rubber, even if you have to bid games that are slightly against the odds. Therefore, it might seem that you should go to three no trump with this hand, which is better than minimum. However, you have only one heart stopper and you should make allowance for the fact partner could be stretching a bit because he is bidding under pressure. Pass.

Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
+K92 ♠ A73 ♠ KJ65 ♠ AQ2
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 NT 2 ♠ 2 NT Pass
7

What action do you take?
A. — When vulnerable you strive to complete the rubber, even if you have to bid games that are slightly against the odds. Therefore, it might seem that you should go to three no trump with this hand, which is better than minimum. However, you have only one heart stopper and you should make allowance for the fact partner could be stretching a bit because he is bidding under pressure. Pass.

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
+A762 ♠ J54 ♠ 7 ♠ KQ1093
The bidding has proceeded:
South East North West
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
7

What do you bid now?
A. — To overall, vulnerable, at the two-level, partner must have a pretty good hand and a decent suit. Under the circumstances, to bid less than four hearts would be a gross dereliction of duty.